THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

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THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall street, New York, or No* 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia,*) *will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

COME TO THE SOLDIER'S AID.

BY MRS. E. G. D. POWELL.

Come to the "Soldier's Aid,"
Mother and wife and maid.
There's a soldier away at the South
Whose lips have been pressed to your mouth,
With mutual kisses and mutual vows,
As father or son, as brother or spouse,
Who, lying now in his blood and dirt,
Would weep with joy for a fresh clean shirt.
O say, shall that brave one fret and grieve
When here is one, only wanting a sleeve,
At the rooms of the "Soldier's Aid."

Come to the "Soldier's Aid,"
Mother and wife and maid.
On that soft pillow, a mother's breast,
A little hand was accustomed to rest;
That self same hand, once so soft and white,
Is lying now in a dreadful plight;
Nothing is left but the palm and thumb,
Which by turns is burning, aching, or numb;
To add to his pain he has not a sling,
But a kerchief almost reduced to a string,
While here is an easy one, partly made,
At the rooms of the "Soldier's Aid."

Come to the "Soldier's Aid,"
Mother and wife and maid.
There's a soldier "learning to walk alone,"
With a crutch in place of a broken bone;
Can gentle compassion and sympathy bear
To hear this sad truth—the other is bare!
Wanting a slipper, aye, even a sock,
When here in the room is plenty of stock,
Waiting for fingers to mend or to make.
O come, for that suffering soldier's sake,
To the rooms of the "Soldier's Aid."

Come to the "Soldier's Aid,"
Mother and wife and maid.
On the same pillow at night with thine
A noble head has been wont to recline,
And dreams of beauty oft visited too,
Like meteors glancing through fields of blue.
That head and heart with its hopes and aims,
That replied at once to our country's claims,
Is tossing now in delirium wild,
Pleading patriotism undefiled;
Mixing it all with kind thoughts of thee,
Like the debris of a raging sea.
The hospital wards are overrun
With many a wounded husband and son;
And not a cot or pillow is there
For that tossing head in its wild despair.
Here are feathers, and a yard of tick,
With scissors, thread and needle; come quick
To the rooms of the "Soldier's Aid."

Come to the "Soldier's Aid,"
Mother and wife and maid.
For know that leg, that arm, and that head,
Is suffering now in our own limbs stead.
List the ungarnished tales of woe,
As through the West the guerillas go,
And would they not scatter, and scathe, and peel,
These Northern States with their iron heel,
Were there none to keep the insurgents back
From their work of death on their bloody track.
They stand in the fore front's deadly fight,
That we in quiet may sleep at night;
O then gratefully, mother and maid,
Come to the rooms of the "Soldier's Aid."

Come to the "Soldier's Aid,"
Mother and wife and maid.
There's a sweet refrain to the terrible song,
To the thunder of war that rolls along;
Soft and sweet as the tones of a lute,
When the shocking canon and shell are mute;
A sweet refrain of a helping hand,
That follows the war-shout over the land;
Dressing and nursing with oil and balm,
Or soothing the spirit with prayer and psalm.
Mother and maiden, sister and wife,
We may not join in this bitter strife,

But may flow into this song of love,
Caught from the angels, bending above,
At the Commission's side we may stand,
They to bind up, we to make the band,
At the rooms of the "Soldier's Aid."

Come to the "Soldier's Aid,"
Mother and wife and maid.
There is still another motive to press:
To educe in our own hearts tenderness,
Like His who in agony blessed the thief,
And sent the son to his mother's relief.
If you bind the infant's limb or hand,
From all exertion by gyve or band,
Will the bones grow firm and the muscles swell,
And the mind in a vigorous body dwell?
Thus if no acts of goods are performed,
Will not the spirit become deformed?
Hence, would we grow in each Christian grace,
Let us seek the good Samaritan's place;
Cherish all promptings to neighborly love,
After the pattern of those above,
Where can we do this, mother and maid,
So well as we can at the "Soldier's Aid."

Correspondence.

ATLANTA, GA., *Oct.* 4, 1864.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY,
Sec. Western Dept. U. S. San. Com.

SIR.—I think it due the agents of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, who have shared with us, the toil and hardships of the campaign, as well as to the people who have generously given each their gifts; while it is a personal pleasure to acknowledge the numerous obligations and favors which they have conferred upon our sick and wounded.

At no period of my service (more than three years) has it been my fortune to see the supplies which the Commission furnish, so steadily provided for our hospitals, and so invariably on hand during and immediately after an action. It is true, that regiments have not, to any great extent, been supplied with extra stores, but this could not be done with the limited transportation at command, besides which, I doubt the practical utility of such an attempt during a campaign. Since we reached Atlanta, a large quantity of vegetables have been issued to the regiments, who were greatly in need of them, and could obtain them from no other source. But in respect to the sick and wounded, of whom we had a large number, I believe that the Commission has done everything possible to alleviate their sufferings, working in the most direct and systematic way, through the *Special Agent* attached to each corps. If each one of these gentlemen did his work as faithfully and systematically as the one attached to our corps, (Rev. J. C. Hoblit,) certainly no more could have been done, for the whole heart of the man is in his work.

The work which these agents at the front have to do, is no small or easy job. You, accustomed to the regularity and method of secure civil railroads, have no idea of the crowd and haste, and weary watching lest the train should come or go when least expected, which must be endured to get these supplies through to the field hospitals. Nor have you to dread lonely rides to the rear, to hasten up supplies when the army has pushed ahead, in expectation of a battle, most lonely because in dread of capture.

Besides this, they furnish data of the sick, wounded, dead and missing, after every action, which at Chattanooga, Nashville, or Louisville, is to answer the inquiries of hosts of anxious friends. I must ask that people will, for their own interests, bear in mind that these records are reliable, obtained on the field, and in field hospitals, often from the wounded themselves, their comrades, or the head-board of the soldier's grave, and by men who understand their business, and are permitted to go where strangers are not permitted to come. It will save many weary hours of travel and anxiety, if the people will consult these records, and take the advice of the men who have them in charge.

Finally I wish to express to the members of the Commission with whom I have been brought in contact, my gratification at witnessing the reciprocal courtesy and cordiality existing between them and the members of the Medical Department of the army, each recognizing the other as a co-laborer in the common cause of humanity.

N. C. BENNETT,
Surgeon U. S. V., Medical Inspector 20th Army Corps.

FROM REV. J. C. HOBLITT.

BATTLE-FIELD RELIEF AGENT.

ATLANTA, GA., *Nov* 10, 1864.

The hospitals have all moved to the rear, as far back as Chattanooga. The last of the sick left to-day. All who were not fit for immediate and hard duty were sent away, and the remainder were ordered to be prepared for a fifty days campaign. We have given out every thing that would be of any service on the march. We had but little to send back to Chattanooga. The army will get a good supply of antiscorbutics as they march through the country. The men are in excellent spirits and health; only a few cases of scurvy. With the advice of Dr. Read I have decided to go with the army;

Mr. Johnson goes with me. We have at no time failed to have a representation with the troops in the field, and to give up now we cannot.

It is true we can do nothing with stores, but never has there been a movement where we could be of more service in the Hospital Directory Department than now. There will be a long time of *suspense and weary watching for letters*, but no letters will come. After awhile Sherman and his noble army will be *heard from*. Mothers will then anxiously look for letters from their sons, and wives from their husbands, but there are many mothers and wives and friends who will be doomed to disappointment; no letters will come from their soldier friends. After waiting a reasonable length of time for letters, they will make inquiry at our Hospital Directory at Louisville, and it is my object, having gathered a complete list of the deaths, casualties and missing on the campaign, to be able to report to you, so that Mr. Holbrook can answer the multitude of anxious ones who may crowd his office.

I know what I am undertaking. It is no easy or small enterprise. There will be much to be endured in such a winter campaign as this will be, and yet I am not willing, while this work is entrusted to my care, to let the interests of the Commission suffer, or fail to serve the cause of humanity, simply that I may have ease and comfort. I am well prepared for the march, and before this reaches you, we will be fairly on our way, somewhere. There is not not a doubt but Gen. Sherman is about entering upon the boldest and most glorious campaign of the war; if not burning his ships behind him, at least destroying his communications. When we come again to the world without, and have communication with you, I will hasten to make my report for the benefit of multitudes of inquiring friends after soldiers in the Army of Georgia.

The last train of cars leaving Atlanta for the North will carry this letter to you. Hoping to see you early in January, I bid you, farewell.

REPORT FROM LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS.

BY BENJAMIN WOODWARD.

Nov. 2, 1864.

To Dr. J. S. Newberry,

Asso. Sec., Louisville, Ky.

Arrived here on the night of the thirty-first ult. Met Dr. Wyeth, Agent Western Sanitary Commission. He has received all the goods forwarded to his care from Duvall's Bluff, in good order, except the loss of a barrel of onions, broken open and contents stolen. The Western Sanitary Commission has had an agency here since September, 1863. During the time, the hospitals have been moderately well supplied; and the issue books and vouchers show that all the regiments within reach here, shared in the distribution. Surgeon Weeks, so well and favorably known in Louisville, is the chief of hospitals for the department of Little Rock. He is the warm friend of Sanitary Commissions, and speaks decidedly of the benefits which they have conferred upon the army. He furnished me the statistics of the sick within his department; which, at the last weekly report, amounted to 3,274 infantry, and 1,535 cavalry. It is not proper to state where most of the sick are, for at some posts the number is greater than that of the well. I could not get to Pine Bluff, the Arkansas river being too low for even the smallest boats. Last week's report from that post, showed 780 in hospitals, and a much larger number in hospital quarters. The last official report from Fort Smith was for August 27, there were then 476 white, and 186 colored soldiers in hospitals, and entirely destitute of

VEGETABLES.

Scurvy, diarrhœa, and malarious fevers are the predominant diseases through the State. It is impossible to overestimate the importance of sending vegetables to this department. There is no post that has suffered as much from scurvy as Pine Bluff, very few vegetables having reached that point. The hospitals at Little Rock have an arrangement with the Agent of the Western Sanitary Commission, by which they are well supplied with all that is needed so far as their hospital fund will go. The mode is this: at the end of each month the fund, with an invoice of what is needed, is put into the hands of the Sanitary Commission agent. He sends to St. Louis, and expends the fund in that market.

GOVERNMENT TRANSPORTATION.

The government provides all the transportation, so that the articles are delivered in Little Rock for just what they cost in St. Louis; making a saving of over three hundred per cent. I took especial pains to examine into the working of the system,

and so well does it work, that I earnestly recommend a trial of it by hospitals at other points, distant from good and cheap markets. This arrangement leaves the Sanitary Commission free to expend its energies on the troops in regiments, which are the great sources of disease. We have now at Little Rock 106 barrels of onions and cabbage, pickles and crackers, and 24 boxes of codfish, milk, syrups, sugar, &c., which is destined for Pine Bluff. A dispatch was sent to the commander of the post, and he answered it, saying, "I will send a train of ten wagons and an ample guard, on Friday, the 4th inst., to bring the stores to the Bluff." Dr. Wyeth will go with the train, and see to the proper distribution, and will report to me on his return. I cannot too strongly urge the appointment of an agent to this field; who should be stationed at Duvall's Bluff, and whose duty it should be to go with all stores to the points where they are to be sent, and see to their proper distribution. An active, prudent man, could work in harmony with Dr. Moody, of Duvall's Bluff, and Dr. Wyeth at Little Rock, the agents of the Western Commission. These gentlemen are the only agents on this wide field, assisted by detailed men.

VEGETABLES WANTED.

Wherever I go, the surgeons say, "Send us all the vegetables possible. The men in the field *must have them or die;* but do not send pickled potatoes, they are a waste of money. And *send no canned fruits,* send them *dried.*" Milk intended for this part of the country, should be put up four or six boxes in one large box, and no label on the box to designate what is in it; for the temptation to steal is so great, that even when it is sent as medical stores to the purveyors, it may be broken.

GENERAL F. STEELE.

I called on General F. Steele to thank him for the facilities granted. He remarked, "The obligation is on my side. Had it not been for the Sanitary Commission at Vicksburg, our army would have suffered much more than it did. We found the agents of the Commission and their stores, always on hand when most wanted, and during my campaign in this State my army could not have existed without them; for they fed and took care of the sick, and cheered and comforted the well, and I always feel when I meet Sanitary agents, that they are my personal friends." On the 4th of October General Steele issued his general order No. 242, a copy of which I enclose; giving every facility to the agents of different Commissions.

ILLINOIS STATE AGENTS.

It has been claimed that the Illinois State agency has to a great extent, supplied the wants of this department; and that Colonel Robb, the Illinois State Agent, has acted as forwarding agent for the Western Sanitary Commission. I have made every inquiry in my power of agents, surgeons, and quartermasters, and can find no evidence of a dollar's worth having come from those sources, except one box in April last, directed to the 26th Illinois Volunteers; which was not, and had not then been in this field. I was told at Memphis "the Col. kept this part of the army supplied." I have made my reports from this trip, lengthy, perhaps too much so, but I wished to give as many facts as possible, in order that you may as fully as possible, understand the field.

FROM FORT SCOTT.

BY J. R. BROWN.

November 7, 1864.

I have just come into this Post from Mound City, where we have over one hundred wounded men whom I helped to pick up on the battle-field near that place. There, as at Westport, I had with me sanitary stores first on hand, and I assure you that your Commission was duly credited for what was done for the suffering wounded soldiers. I have been with the Medical Director and his corps until my supplies were exhausted, and I was obliged to return to Leavenworth for a supply, which I had to buy, mainly on account of shipments from Chicago being delayed. I have been furnished with as many ambulances as I wished to carry hospital stores to points where the wounded could be gathered and cared for; and now as the army has gone too far South for me to reach them, I am desired to take charge of a train of ambulances conveying the wounded up to Leavenworth, as they are able to be moved. I find over two hundred sick and wounded in this hospital, a train having just come in from Newtonia with wounded.

From present appearances all the hospitals in Kansas will be filled for the winter, and I shall have all that I can do. My health is good, and I am just where I like

to work. I have had no better bed than I could make on the ground or in an ambulance, since Price's raid reached Westport, and I never slept sweeter or worked harder.

Price's raid cost many valuable lives, and caused much suffering, but the noble manner in which he was met at the border of Kansas and followed on that border beyond the State, has saved our people, and done great credit to our military forces.

My freedmen and refugee work will now be mainly done by others, as you proposed, and I shall not be compelled to neglect my sanitary work.

Will you write me often?

FROM MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE.

BY BENJ. WOODWARD.

Nov. 10*th*, 1864.

After a long, tedious trip, I arrived here from Little Rock, to-day. Enclosed I send you results in the form of reports. It has been an expensive trip, but I made it as little so as possible. I send you an account of money expended. You will find two items of wine and food for sick soldiers. The circumstances were these, When we arrived at the mouth of White River, a lot of very sick men were put on board to come to hospitals at this city. They were in charge of Assistant Surgeon Curtis, of the 96th Illinois Volunteers. Nothing was provided for them but army rations, which they could not eat. I consulted with Dr. Curtis as to what was best, and then went to the steward of the boat, and had farina cooked with milk, and good soups made for them. He charged me only the cost of the articles. I got wine from the bar for some. I think some of them would not have lived to get here, had it not been for this aid. I do not know that under the "rules" this can be allowed me, if not I am willing to pay the whole; were I again situated in the same circumstances, I should do the same. It was a clear case of men perishing for want of food. I shall go to Vicksburg in a few days. Mr. D. B. Carpenter, will start in a few days for Duvall's Bluff and Little Rock, with a good invoice received here by the ill-fated Dunleith. I think him just the man for that field.

LETTER FROM ORPHEUS EVERTS, SURGEON-IN CHIEF, 3D DIV. 2D CORPS.

HEADQUARTERS, 3D DIV., 2D CORPS,
November 23, 1864.

War, as manifested upon the plane of political organizations, whether it be waged for conquest or in defence of established privileges, is, in the abstract, but a violent manifestation of selfishness. The act of war, in its influence upon individuals engaged developes all the inherent love of self, which society, home, and civilization constrain, and which regeneration displaces with a higher love. From the Major General, jealous of his stars, and too often conscious of the fiction through which they were obtained down to the pitiable private, who has mutilated his own body to escape from danger, which is more dreadful to him than a life of secret shame, we throw to the surface like a shell all the selfishness of our nature, and wear it just underneath our uniform. Nor is war in its influences confined to the armies in the field. Politicians, contractors, speculators, all classes of community are pervaded with various manifestations of the same results.

But as nature and the plane of the senses constitute the basis and highway of the spirit's progress to higher life, and what seems to us so terrible, death, is but separation from these; so war externally, and a state of combats internally, with peace, rest, as their object and ultimation, constitute the normal condition of man here: and war, with all its horrors, cruelties, and manifestations of the evils of man's nature is closely allied to, and brings into active relations the highest virtues.

To say nothing of individual acts—the special heroisms—the martyr-like devotion of rare men, whose deeds reward themselves, without promotion, or worldly recognition, what a great compliment to this war has been the great redeeming feature of our people, the U. S. Sanitary Commission. In an age of political corruption—of falsehood and pretence—in a land where "shoddy" seems to reign supreme, and selfishness is revelling in boundless lust, we find these are but the superfices, the thin rind of the fruit, and underneath are patriotism, benevolence, and Christian charity.

Three years and a half constantly in the field in close contact with all the evils which war developes and puts in active operation, the knowledge of this great fact, that whole communities, from one end of the land to the other, had organized themselves, without regard to sect, or church, or locality, into a great family, alike in blood and in affection; standing to the soldiers in the field without distinction of State or regiment, as brothers and sisters, fathers and

mothers, bestowing with the same liberal hands gifts of comfort and of healing to all, has been to me a constant inspiration; and has done more to redeem the age, and our people from the appearance of utter selfishness and greed than all other manifestations combined. It cannot be possible that the Commission needs testimony of its usefulness at this day. When truth requires a witness, and charity a trumpeter; when mercy and love are matters of doubtful virtue; when faith wears the garments of denial, and asks impertinently if there is a God; one might expect to hear a question raised respecting the propriety and usefulness of the Sanitary Commission: not otherwise.

Nor does the need, the unmistakable demand for this institution reflect the least discredit upon the Government. The Government performs its functions toward the army well. But unless the Government created an additional department and adopted the Sanitary Commission with its peculiar features as a part of itself, it could not supply the place of the Commission by any possibility. Convert the Commission from a spontaneous benevolence to a governmental machine, and it would lose the essential essence of its virtue: the relation which it occupies toward both people, home, kindred, and the suffering soldier, far away, at a moment when all his nature is yearning from its depths toward that heaven with inexpressible need! It would be as different as compulsion is different from volition—as different as obligation is different from love—as different as the ministration of a paid and professional priest to the soul of the dying is different from the ministration of angels sent from the throne of the everlasting Father. The men, too, whom the Commission has placed in the field, so far as my observation extends, are worthy of it—among whom none are more worthy than the field agent of this corps, Mr. Holbrook, of Keene, N. H. Everybody knows "Uncle John," who needs no praise. These men come nearest me now, and so I mention their names. And now, to the good people at "home" let me say, and let my voice be the voice of experience and conscientious observation from the beginning of the war, through every campaign of the Army of the Potomac, bearing witness from every battle-field, *let not your exertions in behalf of the Sanitary Commission be relaxed for one moment* until the end is peace, declared in triumph through the land.

SLANDERS.

It has always been the policy of the U. S. Sanitary Commissson to conduct its vast business with reference to the great responsibility imposed upon it by a generous and confiding people. Conscious of its integrity of purpose, and of its accuracy, even in the smaller details of business, it has not often taken time to notice complaints that may have been made concerning its members and its management, unless they have been direct and tangible. Jealousy, rivalry, prejudice, disloyalty, have each and all of them contributed their portion of abuse and invective, and hitherto they have been allowed to pass with but little, if any thought or notice. Under the garb of sincerity, and with the appearance of earnest concern for the welfare of soldiers, some people have allowed themselves to do the smallest things that humanity is capable of, in order that they may divert the interests of societies or communities, away from the channel opened by the Commission between the people and the army. A remarkable feature in the opposition to the Commission, has been its covert character. But few, if any, have had the courage to make an open assault upon it, while very many have found means to insinuate that evils exist, and to allow false statements to be received as true, for the apparent purpose of gratifying some jealous fear or unfounded suspicion.

We believe that if the Commission conducts its business on false business principles, if it distributes its supplies wastefully, if it pays its agents extravagantly, if it is an unfaithful or an unwise steward of the benefactions of the people, the people ought to know it; and those who believe it, ought to be honest enough with themselves and the truth, considerate enough of the public good and the good of the army, loyal enough to the government which has authorized and encouraged this work, to undeceive a trusting public, whose proud privilege it has been to do as a nation never before did, with its resources in a time of war. They should

do it, not by presenting partial statements to suit a purpose; not by uttering in private, for facts, what they are afraid to say in public; not by appealing to morbid sympathies, and encouraging groundless fears; but by an open, face to face, christian appeal; just as we appeal to the moral sense of the community against gambling, drunkenness, dishonesty in trade, extravagance in living, and everything else that deteriorates manhood and enervates society. Let such a course be pursued. We give below some correspondence, which will explain the reason for the foregoing remarks.

NEW YORK, *November* 20, 1864.

REV. HENRY W. BELLOWS,
President U. S. Sanitary Commission.

MY DEAR SIR:—In conversation with Mr. J. C. H. this morning, he informed me that there were reports of the gravest character afloat, affecting some member of the Sanitary Commission, which were hushed up for fear of their effect on the public. He said that he knew the person, but would not disclose his name. I inferred, though he did not so state, that the charge was of pecuniary delinquency.

I know that it has been always the practice of the Commission to examine thoroughly into all charges brought against any person connected with it, and I trust that you will demand an explanation in this matter.

Very truly yours,
G—— G——.

NEW YORK, *November* 21, 1864.

J. C. H——, ESQ.

DEAR SIR:—The enclosed note explains itself. Will you permit me to ask the name of the person referred to in your conversation with Mr. G., and the nature of the grave charges brought against him? Being wholly ignorant ourselves of the report referred to, it is very necessary that we should be able to meet the slanderous rumor with all the directness possible. As the U. S. Sanitary Commission has always invited the closest scrutiny into its pecuniary affairs, it seeks to confront any accuser who dares to impugn the integrity of any member of the Board. I cannot doubt your friendly desire to afford us any light you possess, or can throw upon a subject of so much importance.

Very respectfully yours,
HENRY W. BELLOWS,
President.

NEW YORK, *November* 22, 1864.

SIR:—Your note of yesterday, enclosing a note addressed to you by Mr. G. G., has just reached me. In answer to it, I inform you, that I regard what passed, as being in a private conversation with a person with whom I had an intimacy, and that I certainly did not intend what I said should go any farther. Second, that the report alluded to by me did not refer to any instance or charge of "pecuniary delinquency," either by the Sanitary Commission as a body, or by any member of it. This was merely, as Mr. G. states in his note to you, "inferred" by him.

Your obedient servant,
J—— C. H——.

Rev. HENRY W. BELLOWS,
President of the Sanitary Commission,
823 Broadway, New York.

NEW YORK, *Nov.* 23, 1864.

J—— C. H——, ESQ.,

SIR:—I have been shown your reply to Dr. Bellows' note in reference to the conversation which passed between us at the Astor House.

On a little reflection, I think you will admit that a charge affecting the official character of men with whom I am associated, is one that I cannot consider as confidential. I did not understand you to make it, and I certainly should not have received it as such.

The information was volunteered by you. You asked me if I had heard the charges against the Sanitary Commission, and on my reply in the negative, stated that there were grave ones, affecting the character of one of its members, which were hushed up for fear of their effect on the public. You refused to give his name indeed, but your remark that the charges did not concern any one that you or I were specially interested in, in no degree assured my mind, for I have a deep interest in the character and conduct of the Commission itself, as well as in the fair fame of its members. It is these anonymous slanders that associations and individuals have to dread. It is the whispered insinuation, for which no one is responsible, and the point of which is intangible, that ruins reputation and thwarts worthy objects. This is not the first time that the Commission has had to demand specified charges and avowed names, and has failed to get them. When you informed me of these rumors, I wrote at once to the President of the Commission to demand an investigation, as it was my duty to do. As

he has invited it, and you do not see fit to further it, I can only conclude that these charges have no better foundation than the others.

I am glad to find that the charge is not one of pecuniary delinquency. I "inferred" it, because I could conceive of no other way in which the official conduct of any member of the Commission could be involved.

I have the honor to be Sir, your obedient servant,

G—— G——.

Mr. J. C. H. is quite willing to say in a "private conversation" to an intimate friend, what would injure in that friend's estimation and in the estimation of all *his* friends to whom the same "private conversation" might be repeated, a member or members of the Commission, and through them, all others who are at work in the same body. He did not refer to "*pecuniary* delinquency," but to some other delinquency, which is not yet discovered.

Again, we give below an example of another kind of covert attack. A soldier writes a letter to his wife, for publication in a paper known as the "North Branch Democrat," and published at Tunkhannock, Pa. The letter is dated at "Camp near Petersburg, Aug. 4, 1864," and the following extract from it concerns the Sanitary Commission.

Among the many humbugs which have grown out of this war, there is none that ranks higher than the much vaunted Sanitary Commission, the labors and charities of which have been so eulogized by subornedd newspaper correspondents and others. It would be but just to the public, which has made such liberal contributions to sustain it, were some person well acquainted with the manner in which the Sanitary Commission business is conducted here, to make an expose of the proceedings of its agents, so that those who have flattered themselves that they were sending luxuries and comforts to the sick and wounded soldiers might be *gratified* with a knowledge of how their charities had been dispensed and who reaped the large share of the benefits disposed of. At City Point, there are now lying some four or five vessels loaded with sanitary stores, and I am informed that an entire wharf is devoted to the business of the Commission. It has, besides, vessels at Fortress Monroe, Norfolk, and in every harbor in possession of the United States army. These vessels are loaded with every variety of clothing suitable for army use, tin ware, canned fruits, fresh vegeale, tables, wines, brandy, gin, whiskey, rum, porter, cider, and every other known stimulant, in endless quantities. There are printed forms, for requisitions, furnished to the officers of the different organizations throughout the army, and all that is necessary to procure a wagon load of anything desired is to fill out one of the blank forms, naming the articles desired, sign any M. D., or mule driver's name to the bottom and load up your wagon. As a consequence, few of the articles furnished by the Sanitary ever reach those for whom they were intended. The army officers furnish their tables with luxuries, get fuddled on the stimulants, and draw their shirts, drawers, &c., from this source. The coarse varieties of food—"sauer kraut," pickles, cabbage, onions, &c., fall to the share of the men, but come so seldom and in such diminished quantities that they only furnish cause for grumbling, and are not received with any degree of thankfulness whatever. I do not doubt but that the Commission has accomplished some good among the hospitals, but nothing in proportion to the demoralizing influence it has exerted in other quarters, and if the whole arrangements were confiued entirely to the hospitals, or wiped out of existence, it would be an absolute blessing to the army. As it is, it is only a whiskey shop on a large scale, furnishing employment to scores of idle loafers, and a very convenient purveying establishment for army officers, whereat goods are furnished, to their class free, for which the too credulous public pays. Hereafter, if you have anything to bestow upon your country's defenders, send it direct to some acquaintance in the army who will need and appreciate the favor; but, by all means, give the Sanitary Commission the cold shoulder. It is an arrant imposition, as at present conducted, and the public should know it.

Now see the correspondence concerning it. On August 29, the paper reaches a friend of the truth, who informs the Commission as follows:

I send to your address, to-day, a most

infamous letter from "Clint," a soldier in the army. The name of this man who signs his name "Clint," is D—— C. K——, 3d N. Y. Independent Battery, Artillery Brigade, 6th Army Corps. I thought it entirely proper that you should be informed of this letter: the author should be rebuked.

When the letter was forwarded to our agency at City Point, Dr. A. McDonald, in charge of the work of the Commission at that place, issued the following instructions to Mr. J. W. Johnson, the experienced Superintendent of Field Relief Corps:

Mr. Johnson will please see "Clint," and find out what he has to say about Sanitary matters.

Just nail Mr. "Clint," if you can, and make him retract this wholesale lie, if possible, over his own signature.

ALEX. McDONALD.

MR. JOHNSON'S REPLY.

HOSPITAL, 2ND CORPS,
Nov. 18, 1864.

MY DEAR DOCTOR:—During the early part of October, I called on D. C. K—— respecting an article which was attributed to him, and published in a paper you had sent to me.

In presence of his captain he admitted that he was author of article signed "Clint," stated that it was a private letter to his wife, not intended for publication. On being pressed for facts on which his statements were founded, he said he could not recollect any special act, but had made his statement from general camp rumors, which he supposed were true. He told me that he would write a letter for publication, and have it ready in a few days.

I called on him on the 16th, when he replied that he had been busy with his papers, and had not time to write it. I then placed the matter in Mr. Holbrook's hands, requesting him to see him frequently and if necessary his captain also, and to continue urging him for it. This has been done without success, as you will see by Mr. Holbrook's letter, to which I refer you for later particulars.

J. WARNER JOHNSON,
Superintendent.

DR. ALEX. McDONALD, City Point, Va.

Mr. Holbrook's letter makes the following disclosures:—

1. That on his first visit to "Clint," he said he was *too busy* to write what he had stated to Mr. Johnson; viz., that he was not in possession of any testimony to substantiate his charges.

2. That on the next visit, he had made up his mind that he would not write a letter acknowledging his mistake.

3. That he would not write it because it would be made use of by Mr. Johnson or the Sanitary Commission.

Thus "Clint" writes a letter, making grave charges against the Commission, without any evidence to sustain them; refuses to admit the injustice he has done to himself and the Commission, because his admission would be used in justification of the truth.

This correspondence has been presented to show just how the thousand rumors that frighten timid and jealous people, arise; how little foundation they have; how little importance is to be attached to them, and to remind our friends that they whose faith in the Commission may be shaken by such stories, have a feeble faith. May it be strengthened.

THREE MONTHS IN THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

NO. III.—FROM PORT ROYAL, VA., TO WHITE HOUSE LANDING ON THE PAMUNKEY.

The loading up of the steamers with the wounded ones, which commenced on Friday evening, was continued throughout Saturday, and by midnight all of them were cared for, and those of our Relief Agents not detailed to go on the transports with the wounded, were resting on the Kent, the Mary F. Rapley and other vessels, of which we had quite a fleet. During the day upwards of one thousand contrabands, of all ages and sizes, had gathered on the dock, asking to be taken to the land of freedom. Each one carried some article of household use, and it was very gratifying to see our government so mindful of them, a fine vessel was set apart for their use, for which favor they showed their appreciation by holding, at midnight, a service of praise and prayer to God, their deliverer; reminding one strongly of the song of Miriam on

the thither side of the Red Sea. A more beautiful scene was never before presented on the Rappahannock than the full shining moon witnessed that night. Not less than thirty vessels riding at anchor, or made fast to the improvised docks; away up stream lay the transports freighted with precious cargoes of maimed and suffering patriots; below us were the liberated slaves,—the unwitting cause of all this suffering and death,—rejoicing in a prospective condition, of which they possessed only the most vague ideas, while between the two, hovered that minister of mercy and love, whom God evoked from his favored ones in this and other lands, and personified in the U. S. Sanitary Commission, and which through myriad channels was night and day performing its heaven-born mission among all colors and conditions.

THE SABBATH.

The Sabbath dawned serene and bright, and at 9 A.M., we started down the river. As the day wore on, one by one of the agents appeared on deck, refreshed and cheerful. Among the company on board was Dr. Briggs, of California, who had come from that far off State to witness the workings of the Commission, and though he had been with us but a few days, he so thoroughly gave himself up to the work of charity, as to win the praise of every agent. This gentleman, Mr. John A. Anderson invited to conduct religious worship. He accepted, and the service was held. His text was from Luke xiv. 12–14. It was a discourse eminently practical and inspiring, for he spoke of the peculiar position occupied by his auditors in relation to the fearful contest they are now waging, and if he spoke with great fervor it is not at all surprising, for was he not just from the most terrible scenes a man can dare to look upon? For many weeks the sermon and its surroundings were the theme of numerous conversations. In that particular I was highly gratified, for I had been led to believe, therefore, that the U. S. Sanitary Commission was a godless institution, yet to my astonishment I found most of my companions God-fearing men and women. There was not a song of Zion I commenced singing but was well-known and ably supported by the ladies and gentlemen on board. Nor was this all, on board the other vessels divine service was also held, and on our downward trip it frequently happened, that as the vessels neared each other for the respective commanders to counsel together, both ships company's would join in singing some familiar hymn. Thus was the time spent until we arrived at the White House landing, at 6 P.M., on Monday, May 30.

WHITE HOUSE, VA.

It was a truly desolate looking place, hallowed as it had been by its associations with Washington. As I viewed its charred walls and devastated tombs, I could not help exclaiming, "O secession what hast thou not wrought?" As we were early on the ground no wounded had yet reached there, but fresh troops were being pushed to the front rapidly, and we were soon made aware that their commissariat was in some way defective, for many of the brave fellows were going hungry away. Almost in the time it takes me to tell it, the utensils were on shore, coffee was made and the work of feeding commenced. We also discovered a lot of sick soldiers scattered around over an area of four miles, these were gathered up and properly cared for. While engaged in this good work the smiling month of May left us, and as the dawn of the first June morning sent forth its greetings, an installment of three hundred poor wounded ones reached the landing at White House.

J. J. B.

THE NEW YORK MEETING.

MEETING OF DELEGATES FROM THE SOLDIERS' AID SOCIETIES.

A meeting of delegates from the various Soldiers' Aid Societies of New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, parts of Massachusetts, Vermont, New Jersey, and Canada, was held in the hall of the Cooper Institute, Wednesday evening, Nov. 16, 1864, under the auspices of the Woman's Central Association of Relief. There was a large attendance, principally composed of ladies who are always foremost in works of benevolence. Over the platform was a large diagram, furnished by Dr. Bellows, President of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, exhibiting the organization and different agencies of the Commission.

Professor Hitchcock, in accordance with the announcement, assumed the Chair, and having called the meeting to order, called on the Rev. Mr. Duryea, of the Reformed Dutch Church, to open the meeting with prayer. Mr. Duryea then offered prayer

for the nation, the army, and the efforts made in its behalf.

Professor HITCHCOCK proceeded to explain the object of the meeting; he said:—It is neither fitting nor needful that I should stand long between you and the gentlemen who have come here this evening fully charged with important information pertaining to the great interest which has called us together. What the Sanitary Commission is doing, and what it has done is known to every person on this continent, perhaps, we may say, is known to every person in the whole length and breadth of Christendom. The Society at whose call we are convened this evening, The Woman's Central Association of Relief, is simply an organization tributary to the Sanitary Commission. It is, we may say, one of its tap-roots. It is through this organization that large amounts of needed stores have been sent forward to the army, over all the field. This tap-root has its many fibres running through the soil in the country around about, and those fibres are here to-night, namely, these auxiliary societies from Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, and other localities which are represented by delegates to this Convention. And I suppose I do but justly interpret the opinion of this New York City Society, and of these kindred helping societies, when I say that the work in which they are engaged, is not merely a work of mercy, but also of patriotism as well. They have devoted themselves to this work not merely because the soldiers are wounded, sick and suffering, but because the hearts of these women are in the cause for which these men bleed and suffer. So that this instrumentality has been yielding nutriment to the patriotic sentiment of the country, as well as affording relief to the soldier.

These societies are convened this evening that they may compare notes, see what has been accomplished already, and take counsel in regard to the future, which also offers its burdens, because none of us can be so sanguine as to suppose that we have quite reached the end of this sad chapter yet. Would to God that the only men on this continent who can make peace would make it by grounding their arms, by saluting the old flag, by accepting the old protection of the nation's laws. (Applause.) But these only possible peace makers on the continent are resolutely bent on war, and so long as that is their choice there is nothing left for us but to fight it through. (Applause.) I speak this not vauntingly, not in the military spirit at all, for that is not the mood of mind in which we are met. We are met to consider the mercies which pertain to this work, to contemplate the burdens which are still to rest on our shoulders, and to gird ourselves for those tasks which are still before us; and while we welcome these ladies from the tributary societies which represent so many States, we are under the sad necessity of saying to them, go back to further labors, for other months, for another year—it may be for other years, so long as God permits this wanton rebellion to exist. While our brave boys are standing at their guns, we have only to stand behind and care for them when they fall, and nurse them when they are sick; they fighting to the end of this sad illiad of our woes, we caring for them to the end. And here on this altar we lay ourselves afresh, be it for one month, for two months, for six months, for one year, for two years, for three years—until peace comes by righteousness which God can approve. Until that supreme hour, so long as our boys have to fight, we will care for them. (Applause.) That is our resolve to-night.

You will be addressed by several gentlemen who understand, from long and intimate acquaintance with the work, all the necessities of the case. Mr. Potter, will now make a brief report.

Mr. HOWARD POTTER then read a list of the various Soldiers' Aid Societies represented at the meeting, and handed in to the Chairman the reports of the delegates present, and a short report, from which it appears that the Women's Central Relief Association had expended in purchasing material, flannel and other things the sum of $29,329 31, of which the different societies had contributed nearly one-half It had also received the following articles:—cotton shirts, 17,180; flannel shirts, 24,212; cotton drawers, 9,258; flannel drawers, 11,836; socks, 6,776; slippers, 2,564; wrappers, 1,336; handkerchiefs, 46,444; bed sacks, 5,008; pillow sacks, 4,910; pillows, 3,844; pillow cases, 6,912; sheets, 9,012; bed quilts, 2,067; towels, 13,711; bandages, 79 bbls.; old cotton, 139 bbls.; dried fruit, 202 bbls.; jelly, 2,185 jars; pickles, 4,500 galls.; whisky, 403 bottles; brandy, 3,726 bottles; blackberry brandy and cordial, 9,816 bottles.

The supplies have been distributed by the Supply Committee during the summer to Washington, Baltimore, and Harper's Ferry, (for Gen. Grant's and Gen. Sheridan's armies), to Norfolk and City Point, to Newbern, N. C., Beaufort, S. C., and New Orleans. It has also filled requisitions for several U. S. steamers and the naval stations at Key West and Pensacola. The military hospitals in this vicinity have made frequent, but small demands, which have generally been complied with. All these goods have been given out, either upon the order of the Sanitary Commission, or upon requisitions from Surgeons.

The New England and New York State Soldiers' Homes in this city have been so efficiently conducted that the claims upon the Special Relief Committee have been but small, being chiefly directed to the relief of a few cases of extreme suffering from sickness and wounds.

The Corresponding Committee has distributed during the past six months, 29,717 copies of the "Sanitary Commission Bulletin" and reports, at an average expense of 1½ cents a copy.

The Treasurer reports the receipt of $38,318 82 which have been expended by the several Committees.

Mr. F. N. KNAPP, Associate Secretary of the Sanitary Commission for the East, was then introduced to the Convention. He said:

My friends, I suppose what is wanted of me to-night, is to give to those who represent the aid societies, tributary to the Sanitary Commission, in order that they may carry it home to their various organizations such information concerning the use that is made of the stores put into the hands of the Commission, as will give assurance that their work is not in vain, that the supplies do reach the soldiers, for whom they are intended, and that the needs of the soldiers are known to those who have charge of these supplies. It is not required of me, I apprehend, to present to you the magnitude of this undertaking, and the greatness of the benefit that it confers upon the needy soldiers of the army and through them upon the country, for the sake of inspiring new zeal, but simply to tell you how we do the work, so that you may be able to answer the questions which are constantly put by those who are so anxious to do all the good they can, that they become skeptical in regard to the good that has been done by the Sanitary Commission.

In the first place, I will state in general terms the principles upon which the work is done. The design is to secure the greatest good to the greatest number, by the most equal distribution of the supplies that are placed in our hands. Our work is first to distribute the supplies which are sent to us; secondly, to purchase other supplies with the means furnished; thirdly, to meet cases of special distress arising out of emergencies and exigencies where the ordinary provisions for relief do not suffice.

It is proper to state that we do not pretend that our working is perfect, or that there are no mistakes made in the issuing of these supplies. Some of them do not get into the hands they are intended for, and some wants are not met. Our agents are not at every possible post in the field; and we do not pretend that every person connected with the Commission is so devoted to his work that he will allow nothing but the thought of the best interest of the soldier to influence him. Ours is a human undertaking, and conducted by human agencies, therefore we cannot guard against misuse and abuse in every instance. But I know we can give you assurance that in the main, the object for which you are laboring has been accomplished, and that the amount of good that has been done, is vastly larger than you yourselves hoped for when you were at work, or than you even now suppose. For only those who have been on the field, and in the hospitals, know, or can know, the twentieth part of the blessing that has attended this instrumentality.

The question is frequently asked, and it was repeated to me to-night, since I came from the adjoining room. How do you distribute these supplies in such a way that you know they reach the soldiers? I will tell you briefly through what process they get there, and by what safeguards they are protected in their transit.

HOW THE SUPPLIES REACH THE SOLDIER.

An invoice is sent, say to Washington, of supplies which are on the way to one of the storehouses there. As soon as it reaches Washington it is copied into an invoice book, numbered, recorded and filed. A corresponding number is entered into a larger book, with the name of the place from which it is sent, the party who sends it, the party who receives it, the date of its being sent, the date of its arrival, or if it does not arrive, the statement of the fact,

and the probable time that it may be expected, so that it may be looked out for. A copy of the invoice is then put into the hands of the Receiving Storekeeper, as he is called, who receipts for the same, and becomes responsible to the office for the goods. If they do not arrive, then he makes a minute of it, and search is made for the proper person upon whom the responsibility rests. When the goods arrive notice is sent to the office, and they are entered among the stock on hand, and the Chief Clerk becomes responsible for them. They are then issued by him upon such requisitions as we think insures their getting to the places where they are most needed. These requisitions are written orders upon the Storekeeper. He is not allowed to issue anything without giving a receipt for the same, and he brings every day to the Chief Clerk, an account of what he has issued the day before, as well as what he has received, together with a statement of the stock on hand. He sends on his receipts to the Chief Clerk, who thus has a constant check upon the person who receives the goods at the Receiving Storehouse, and upon the person who issues them at the other storehouse.

CAUSES OF COMPLAINT.

After passing from the hands of the Chief Clerk, the supplies are distributed with a careful scrutiny on the part of the Chief Clerk, of the actual needs. The demands may be greater than the supplies on hand, or than the Chief Clerk feels justified in issuing. In that case, he distributes according to his judgment, where the need is greatest, rather than where the demand is greatest, and with reference to an equal distribution. There is a constant necessity for cutting down the requisitions of the surgeons, and from friends in the hospitals. This, of course, creates ill feeling and complaint on the part of those who cannot get all they want, at the various posts. Many complaints arise from this cause.

HOW GOODS ARE DISTRIBUTED.

When the goods are brought to the vicinity of the hospitals where they are required, the Hospital Visitors, (to whom reference may be made, as doing a most admirable work), look out for them, and make sure that they reach the soldiers in the several wards of the hospital. Of course, it is impossible for them to follow each garment or every morsel of food, but they can keep a general supervision, and they give us constant assurance that they reach those for whom they are intended. For these Visitors give not merely an hour's attendance, but go from bed to bed and find out what the men want, and what they have got.

FIELD DISTRIBUTION.

The supplies in the field are distributed very largely by the agents of the Commission personally, to the men, so much so, that during the recent campaign in the Army of the Potomac, for illustration, thousands of barrels of fresh vegetables, and over two hundred tons of fresh tomatoes were distributed to the men in the trenches, and in the camps, by our own agents. They saw the men receive them, and in the majority of cases, saw them eat them.

The garments are also distributed by our agents personally. Often, of course, they cannot see to giving them to the individual men, but they carry them into the wards, and it is there known that the Sanitary Commission has brought so many garments for so many of the most needy men.

I can assure you that we do know that in the great majority of cases at the front, where, of course, there is less possibility of a careful detail of supervision, the articles given out do reach the men. Nearer Washington and other principle depots of supplies, receipts are taken so far as it is possible upon regular requisitions, indorsed by Brigade Surgeons, and there is a degree of restraint put upon those who call for issues, which gives us assurance that they reach their destination. That restraint however, or red tape, as it is called, is relaxed when the emergency requires it. After three years of experience, a proper mean has been found between undue restraint and a too free scattering of supplies, so that now, I believe, if a shrewd, honest business man were to investigate the matter, although he would, of course, find occasional misuse, he would say, in view of the humanitarian as well as the business side of the question, that the method adopted is perfectly satisfactory. I say this after large and careful observation.

AFTER A BATTLE.

As an instance of relaxation, I will refer to the fact that immediately after a battle no restraint is placed upon the issues. We then rely upon the honesty of the men employed. A man for instance, whom we be-

lieve or know to be honest says, "Under yonder tree are gathered twenty wounded men; in that barn are forty more; they have been without food and blankets since morning, and the Government supply will not reach them before night. Will you intrust us with your supplies to carry to them?" In such cases we say, yes. If possible, we receive from them without delay, receipts, and then our agents pass round from point to point and see that the supplies reach the men. It is at such times that the restraints are most likely to be removed. Amid such scenes of suffering men are not likely to do wrong and abuse their privileges. It it is not in human nature to be selfish at such times.

BETWEEN THE FIELD AND HOSPITAL.

When the wounded soldiers are gathered at intermediate points between the battle-field and general hospital, then these restraints are so far removed as to make sure that the wounded shall not suffer, if we can help it, for want of supplies. This was the case at Belle Plain, Gettysburg, Fredericksburg, Winchester, City Point, and various other places. It is the policy of the Commission not only to go out and meet the wounded with supplies, but to anticipate their needs; in other words, to wait for those needs to occur. Therefore it is that in some instances supplies have been lost and captured by the enemy. In nineteen out of twenty cases where we have waited days, weeks, and sometimes even months to meet emergencies, we have not waited in vain. I mention this, because we have had many inquiries why we did not wait until the need arises and not keep such a reserve on hand; why we kept agents waiting anticipating battles, as at Martinsburg and Winchester; why we spent the people's money in that way. We do so because we know it is better to spend a thousand dollars in waiting than to have a thousand men suffer by waiting themselves; and because we know that one life saved to the army and to some home (for we put the army always before home) is worth a thousand dollars spent in waiting. (Applause.)

WHY ARE SUPPLIES AT HOSPITALS?

Another question naturally asked is in regard to the propriety of giving out supplies to the men after they have reached points where the Government can help them. And this question suggests also another broader one, namely: Why is it that at this period when the Government is doing so much, sanitary supplies are demanded at all? Are not the needs more imaginary than real? I was requested to refer to this to-night.

Our experience is that the needs do continue, and that they will continue so long as the army is in the field—not merely comforts that friends at home are anxious to supply, but real wants which must be supplied to maintain muscle in the arm of war—that it is not merely a call of humanity, but a wise and provident policy, giving strength to the army. For example, as soon as a man is wounded and carried from the battle-field to the place where the wounded are gathered, it is assumed that he will be immediately transferred to Washington. But it is found that many must remain on account of the seriousness of their wounds. In the meantime others are brought in, until what was intended as simply a temporary hospital or shelter for the men, becomes by degrees a large and permanent place for gathering the men. The Government meantime does not see fit to make arrangement for a permanent hospital, and, consequently, the men do not receive the provision which the Government usually affords. In that way the agency of the Sanitary Commission comes in and benefits the soldiers largely.

TRANSFER OF WOUNDED.

So, in the transfer of the wounded, the Government assumes that adequate means are at hand to make the men comfortable until they reach a certain station, whereas it frequently happens that a train is started with only one quarter of the blankets necessary to keep the men from suffering, and with insufficient supplies of food and attendance, because the Government agents posted there had not power to draw supplies for these temporary purposes. One train which I accompanied from Winchester to Harper's Ferry was five miles long. A wagon broke down at such a point that the rest of the train not being able to pass it was delayed three hours, so that we did not arrive till midnight, and but for the provision furnished by the Commission many of the men would have suffered from hunger.

HOME COMFORTS.

The spirit which we endeavor to inspire in every new agent who joins us in this work is this: to feel that we are not ourselves, but that we are you—that these sup-

plies are not merely so many blankets to cover the soldiers and so much food to feed them, but they are home blessings to the soldier. If there is one single thought more than another which we endeavor to impress upon the hearts of our working men, it is to try to make the soldiers feel that the blankets and the food come from home. There is a healing power in this consciousness more than I can tell. It is not merely sentiment, but reality, as we who have had experience in this work can testify.

ISSUES.

We have issued about 30,000 blankets, from 50 to 60,000 cushions, of which the Government supplies almost none; 43,000 bed-ticks, to be filled to meet emergencies in temporary hospitals, and but for which the soldiers would have had to lie for days and sometimes weeks on the floor or ground; from 50 to 60,000 pillows, 130,000 pillow cases, about 20,000 pillow ticks, to be filled with hay or straw, 60,000 quilts, 119,000 sheets, 255,000 towels, 300,000 pairs of drawers of different kinds, 275,000 handkerchiefs, over 400,000 shirts, different kinds, 230,000 socks, nearly 40,000 wrappers, 30,000 cans of meat, and about 30 tons of canned milk. Many of these articles are not furnished by the Government at all. An account is kept of every article issued, and constant reference is made to the record.

SPECIAL RELIEF WORK.

This special relief department is doing not merely a supplemental work to the Government, but a work which the Government has never undertaken and probably never would undertake. We have, in fact, the whole work in our hands—that of caring for soldiers where, but for us, no provision would be made. Since the commencement of our work we have received in our Homes over half a million of men, and spent over half a million of dollars. We have 20 or 30 Lodges in different parts of the country, wherever they are wanted. We have now engaged in this work forty or fifty agents. The expense is large, it is true, but we believe it is justified.

My friends, if I could only convey to you the feelings of the soldiers, their constant, grateful expressions for what they receive from the hands of the Commission, you would be able to carry home with you the conscious assurance that the gifts which your various societies are furnishing are blessings to the wounded and suffering soldiers. (Applause.)

REMARKS OF COL. RAY HAWKINS.

After speaking of his wounds and privations, he said, as he was not yet able to return to the front, he felt like doing something for the cause.

I consulted some gentlemen about the Sanitary Commission. Their answer was, "We would like to give money to that cause if we only knew that the soldiers would get it." "Well," said I, "my friends, there is one thing very certain: if you don't give they will never receive. It is your duty to give, and trust to Providence that the soldiers get it."

I began to work and worked on, and suffice it to say, that during the past six months I have established in the States of Iowa, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, and Kansas, over 300 Auxiliary Aid Societies. (Applause.)

I believe there are few towns now in Illinois, Indiana, or Ohio, that have not an aid Society. Even in Missouri, which has suffered so much from the rebellion, the loyal ladies are contributing their mites to the Sanitary Commission. And even in Kansas, in the city of Lawrence, that was burned by Quantrell's men, and is rebuilt with board cabins, the loyal ladies had established an aid society, and were at work for the soldiers. (Applause) And throughout the entire West they hold their society meetings regularly, every week, one day being devoted each week to the soldiers. They make drawers, shirts, handkerchiefs, towels, bandages, and lint. I saw aged women, with trembling, palsied hands, picking linen to pieces, and making lint for the wounded boys.

If the ladies and gentlemen present tonight, could only visit the hospitals at Nashville, Chattanooga, Knoxville, and Atlanta; if you could go into the wards of the hospitals and see the sick and wounded boys when the Sanitary agent comes along, and distributes on each side, as he passes through, such things as the boys need to make them comfortable and happy; you would be assured of the success of the Commission. Perchance some poor boy gets a little box of some delicate article, and finds the name of some dear friend at home labelled on it. Perchance the name of a sister or a mother is written upon the parcel, and he turns

over in his couch and says, "John, my sister has not forgotten me, though I have been so long away." If you could only see those countenances light up with gratitude towards the loyal people of the North, and especially the ladies that are engaged in this noble enterprise, you would feel amply repaid and rewarded for your kind efforts at home. While they have been guarding your homes at the front, they rejoice to know that you have been caring for them, and toiling for them around the midnight lamp.

The Sanitary Commission, I may safely say, has done as much good to the cause of liberty and humanity as would have been effected by thirty thousand recruits sent into the field. (Applause.) If you succeed by nursing in saving or curing one sick or wounded veteran, so that he is able to return to his regiment, it is equal to five raw recruits. For while every one of the five may make a good soldier, it takes time to do it. You can't expect to take a man right from the plow and make a soldier of him immediately. Send him to the front, into the swamps of the South, and the chances are that in a few days he is taken sick and removed to a hospital, because he has not become acclimated, as the veterans have.

REMARKS OF DR. BELLOWS.

I do not know how your hearts are affected by hearing these words—the Army of the Cumberland, the Army of the Tennessee, the Army of the James, the Army of the Potomac—bandied about from lip to lip, in connection with the Sanitary Commission; as if it were an every day thought, a simple and easy thing, that a benevloent, spontaneous association like ours, should have a nation in its arms, and an army spreading all over this vast continent, the object of its daily solicitation and its care. For one, I feel a devout, a humble, an inexpressible gratitude to the Almighty God, who has permitted an association to come into being, and to organize an enterprise that for three years has been sustained by the people of this country in carrying on a work so sublime in its magnitude, so vast in its reach, so infinite, I might almost say, in its details, so deep, so high in its motives, spreading so far; and yet, in the magnificent scope of its enterprise, not forgetting the least duty or opportunity in which the soldier could be helped, from one end of this vast field to the other, and the largest ever occupied by armies and for the longest time in which such vast armies were ever before on a field of war. There is a grandeur in the work which the people of the United States have undertaken, and in which the women of America have performed so large a part, an enterprise which has united the whole people in one great work of benevolence; which now has stretched itself from one end to the other of this vast continent; as well known on the slope of the Pacific as it is here on the Atlantic. The hearts of those people, three thousand miles from yours, are beating in the strictest unison, combined and united in one perfect plan, working with you as if you were sprung from them, a wheel in the same coach; so that their sympathies, affections and intelligence, correspond absolutely, with perfect, practical exactness to yours, in the objects, purposes and modes of operation connected with this Sanitary Commission. I cannot tell you the emotions of joy, and pride, and national glory which filled my soul after sailing six thousand miles around our continent, to find on the Pacific coast American men and women feeling precisely as we did, and not only expressing our own familiar national thoughts and ideas, but uttering our humane and philanthropic sentiments in regard to this Commission, in the identical style and with the identical feelings that I had left here at home. It gave me a conception of the more than collossus thought that could stride this continent, rest its feet on opposite shores, and poising itself, could reach down from its extended limbs to one common heart which animated a pair of corresponding arms that were active in the great ministration of love to our great American army. (Applause.)

And when I find the same ideas filling the hearts and souls of the men and women on both sides of the continent, from the farthest north down to the deepest south, except where the angry blood of rebellion and secession stops the progress of human sentiments and ideas, then I extend my eye, and in all parts of the world, in all languages, rejoice to hear sympathy expressed for this great American work. It occupies the thoughts and feelings of journals in French, German, and English. I picked up accidentally, on my own study table, as I left this evening, a powerful review in the best English Medical Journal on the work of the American Sanitary Commission. I picked up the London Globe, and there were three columns devoted to the Sanitary

Commission. I took up the London News, and found two columns devoted to it. And in all of them were expressions of amazement and surprise that the semi-barbarous people of America, who were incapable of self-government, and were going to rack and ruin on account of their ignorance of the principles of law and government; had yet succeeded in producing, through this organization, such results that they stood before the world, in this particular alone, as a type of a civilized community and a christianized people. (Applause.) Don't you think that we have, all of us who have sustained this enterprise from the beginning, some right to pluck up courage and thank God, and determine to go on to the end; making this work, to which we have pledged ourselves, from this time forward, more effective, more skillful, more humane, more tender, more generous, more complete. (Applause.) I, who have studied this matter, and have been in a position to know the character of its work, pledge myself to you that, if it is not well carried on, if it is not all that it ought to be, in point of prudence, of exactness, of thorough fidelity on the part of agents, it has these imperfections not from the want of the most prayerful, the most intense, the most constant devotion on the part of those who have this business in hand. This country does not know, and it is not important it should know, and certainly I am not here to boast that I know, the men who have worked shoulder to shoulder, hand in hand, with me since the beginning of this war. But I know their daily toils and their daily anxiety in regard to the pecuniary burden that has pressed upon them. I know how solemn they have felt their responsibility to be in organizing the general operations, in which every dollar spent becomes a matter of anxious investigation. Every bill must be passed in our daily session, every point scrutinized, and every guard and every caution invented and applied, that human ingenuity can search out, to secure a wise expenditure of the money placed in our hands.

And do you know what pulling and hauling we have had with our active agents in the field? Mr. Knapp has spoken to you. I wish Dr. Newberry, who represents the Western Department, had also spoken to you. The agents in the field, who see the suffering, are rummaging at our stores to pull out supplies; wanting to spend more money, telling us the work is not half done, and that they need a great deal more of every article and more liberty to spend. They pull at our heart-strings and resources of treasure and supplies in every shape and form; and here we stand, the guardians of the people's money that has been put into our hands, checking them, cutting them off, cautioning them, beseeching them not to make such heavy requisitions, sending down people to inquire if they cannot do with less. And thus, between this upper and nether millstone, this business is ground out with pain, anxiety and controversy, such as the apostles had together. We have this strife among ourselves, and what is it for? It is a strife between those anxious to be faithful on one side to the soldier, and on the other to the people, who supply the necessaries and means of helping the soldier.

And then we hear criticisms made by idle tongues that don't know what they are talking about, by persons that have never been down and investigated the matter; and if they had, could not know much better than before they went the facts of the case —persons who stick their heads into a barrel, and then pretend to give wise counsels about a business that must be studied like a profession to be understood. I deny that anybody knows and is competent to criticise the operations of the Sanitary Commission, who has not devoted his time for months to it, any more than he is competent to criticise the business affairs of Stewart, or any other mercantile concern whose dealings amount to millions, and whose trade extends over a whole continent. How do you think he would value the criticism of one, who, after looking into his books of account for half an hour, should feel himself competent to inform the public that his business was not conducted in a way satisfactory to them? (Laughter.) I assure you, so far as I am concerned, and as the gentlemen of the Sanitary Commission are concerned, we have profound peace in our consciences as to our designed fidelity to the vastest trust, perhaps, that has ever been committed by the benevolence of any people on the face of the earth, to a small number of men. We feel this to our heart's core, and God send the time when the burden can be lifted from our shoulders and hearts, and we can give back to the people the trust that they have confided to our hands. Meanwhile, I ask you to trust us a little longer. We shall not run away, and the time will come when

you will have an opportunity of looking very closely into all our affairs.

But let me say, we have very little to complain of after all, and I take it, no more criticism or jealousy exists than must inevitably attend the organization and operations of an institution so extensive, so ramified, and that has so much in its hands. Therefore, grateful for the confidence that the women and men of the country have reposed in us thus far, we say that we have succeeded, and we are succeeding, and we are confident that we are going to succeed to the end of the last chapter and page of this great war in which we are engaged. Dear California, so far off that she cannot see us, trusts us with her young fresh heart, as if we were real apostles sent down from heaven, and pours out her gold and silver into our hands. When I went there I found not a particle of distrust. The only question was, What means shall we adopt to do more for the Sanitary Commission? (Applause.) And her people went to work to do about twice as much as they had ever done before, and when I left there they had about a dozen agents in the field establishing Aid Societies in every town of fifty inhabitants throughout the whole coast, so that there will not be a little agricultural hamlet in all that region that will not, in the course of the next three months, be forwarding its means into our hands. When I proposed to establish dime societies there, "Dime!" said they, "you mean half-dollar; that is the least anybody here is willing to give." (Laughter.) Only yesterday we received a "gold-telegram," informing us that we could draw from the banks $16,000 in gold, the first instalment on the new arrangement, probably the product of a single month of labor. Two thousand more came from a little place called Nappa, where they must be all pretty wide awake, I think, in spite of the name. (Laughter.) Such is the spirit that prevails there and should prevail here. You are more occupied here, called upon in a great variety of ways to give, but let us hope for still greater success in our efforts here in this cause.

Let me say to the lady delegates, that they may be particular and minute in their inquiries. Put me in the witness-box to-morrow. We promise to tell you the precise truth and give you all the information we have in our power to give. Continue in the good work in which you are engaged. After you are satisfied with your explorations, return to the fields from which you came encouraged, and with the blessing of God, the smiles and approbation of all good men, the gratitude of the army, and the admiration of your country, go on aiding the gracious Commission, and flooding the resources of this Central Aid Society with the stores that we so much need. For remember, that a few months ago that 80 per cent. of all our supplies were in kind, but now we have come to the pitch when 80 per cent. are bought with the people's money. I tell you it is a sad state of things when we are obliged to go into the market and buy supplies. Hitherto seven millions of all we have distributed have been gifts in kind, about three millions is all we have received in money. We shall spend it all very rapidly if the people do not wake up to the duty of sending in, as they have done in times past, supplies in kind. It is from your aid societies that we must find that life blood that shall enable us to continue our work to the end. Don't fail us; don't let the country fail us in this great and glorious work. (Applause.)

Prof. HITCHCOCK then introduced the Rev. Dr. Adams.

The Rev. Dr. ADAMS said: If I were to ask this audience in what respect the speeches of Dr. Bellows and Mr. Knapp differ from the medical department of the government, I suppose you would respond that they need no supplement. I had come here with the intention of saying a few words, more in the way of expressing my interest in this subject, than in any supposed necessity for arguing with any who are skeptical concerning it. But at this late this hour I think the best favor I can render to the audience, is not to detain them with any remarks.

The doxology was sung and the convention adjourned.

LADIES MORNING MEETING.

In an upper room of the Cooper Union the delegates met on the following morning, to listen to details of the work from persons officially connected with the Commission. The meeting was largely attended, and greatly interested in what was said by the several speakers.

Dr. Bellows read a letter from Dr. Gordon Buck, of New York, regretting that he was unable to attend the meeting, and paying a high tribute to the work accomplished by the Sanitary Commission.

A large diagram, representing the various branches of the Commission, was placed behind the platform, by means of which the workings of the Commission were explained.

Dr. Bellows said that the most important part of the work was represented by the ladies who furnish the stores and supplies. He also explained the character of the organization. The central depot is at Washington, where the Board holds stated meetings.

The Central Committee, which consists of five members, is stationed in this city. It had been found necessary to compose the Committee of men who could meet frequently, and therefore it was necessary that they should reside here. This Committee, which has entire charge of the Commission when the Board is not in session in Washington, meets daily at three o'clock. Recently, two members have been added, one fron Boston and one from Philadelpeia, who meet with the Committee twice a month.

The General Secretary is the executive officer, and lives in New York. He frequently visits the field, and makes himself acquainted with the work performed, and the manner in which the officers of the Commission perform their duties. The Standing Committee also visits the field from time to time, and inspects the work of the Commission. The General Secretary reports to the Standing Committee.

The speaker said that the wisdom and skill of the founders of the Commission was proved by the fact that it has remained unchanged since it went into operatian. The method and plans upon which it was formed were carefully designed, and founded on study and experience; and there has been no occasion to alter its workings. It is not a sentimental humane association, designed to embarrass the work of the government, nor to enervate the soldier, but to encourage the medical department of the army, and to help the government, the army, and the country.

In speaking of the workings of the Commission, the speaker said that it had not been the object of the Society to keep itself before the people more than was necessary to accomplish its work. He believed that much was done by the Commission for which the government received the credit, and he was willing that the credit of its labors should go to the government.

The Commission is divided into two departments, the Eastern and Western, with principal depots at Washington and Louisville. Each department is under the direction of an Associate Secretary, who guides and controls the several agents under his supervision.

The speaker said an experienced and capable man was constantly employed in buying stores for the Commission. In this city a committee, consisting of Messrs. A. A. Low, Jonathan Sturges, and W. B Astor, examine the financial condition of the Commission at stated periods.

Dr. Bellows explained the workings of the office in Washington. He said that it was opened at daylight, business commencing at seven o'clock, and closing at eleven P.M. During the night a servant answered the bell, and supplied all proper requisitions. From this depot fifteen army posts and general hospitals are daily supplied with stores. Besides the daily calls from hospitals, there are at least one hundred applicants for individual relief, together with philanthropic ladies who solicit goods to distribute among sick and wounded soldiers. Each of these applicants has to be attended to, requiring much time and labor on the part of those employed by the Commission. In addition to the business transacted at the Washington office, general intelligence is given to strangers seeking information. It is, in fact, a general encyclopædia of military knowledge, to which hotel-keepers and others direct persons inquiring for regiments, brigades, or divisions. Lists are kept of all the surgeons in the various departments. There women, wives, fathers, boys, and others, go to learn of their friends.

The Home, which is near the railroad depot, has several hundred beds, where soldiers who have become separated from their commands, or for other reasons, having no place to sleep, are accommodated every night. There are twenty-five similar Homes throughout the country (although not so large), including those in Georgia.

As many as five hundred persons have visited the office in Washington during one day, on business.

The speaker explained the rigor of the army regulations, and the difficulty experienced by men in obtaining necessary supplies, which were at hand, but which could not properly be provided according to regulations. He said that these restrictions on the part of the government were necessary. Dr. Bellows added, that if the government

had twice as many officers, and five times as many supplies, it could not do the work now done by the Sanitary Commission.

A lady handed the speaker a note, asking him to give some information in respect to the salaries paid to the officers of the Commission.

Dr. Bellows said that the Commission did not often employ volunteer agents, and that they did spend a good deal of money on salaries. They must have men who would be under rigid discipline, and would perform the work required of them. They did it to be economical. The Board received no remuneration, and the largest salary paid is to the General Secretary, who must be a man of ability, and whose entire time is given to the service. Fortunately, they had thus far been able to get men for moderate salaries. They employed from two hundred to five hundred men at an average of two dollars a day, less than was paid to mechanics.

The address of Dr. Bellows was interesting throughout, and at times eloquent.

At the close of his speech, the audience was addressed by Mrs. Barker, Hospital Visitor from Washington, and A. M. Sperry, Auxiliary Relief Agent from City Point. The meeting was in every respect a success, and the delegates separated with good cheer in the work, retiring to their homes renewed in spirit and purpose for future work.

DELEGATES

Present at Soldiers' Aid Society Council, New York, November 16 and 17, 1864.

ASSOCIATE MANAGERS.

Miss F. Arnold, Eastern Westchester Co., N. Y.
Mrs. W. D. Hamlin, Eastern Oneida Co., N. Y.
Mrs. George Letchworth, Northern Cayuga Co., N. Y.
Mrs. Wm. Starr Miller, North Western Dutchess Co., N, Y.
Mrs. E. H. Redfield, Western Orange Co., N. Y.
Miss G. B. Schuyler, South Western Westchester Co., N. Y.
Mrs. Emma P. Thurber, Onondaga Co., N. Y.
Mrs. C. E. Bacon, Northern Fairfield Co., Conn.
Mrs. Benjamin Douglas, Middlesex Co., Conn.
Mrs. John Olmsted, Hartford Co., Conn.
Mrs. Lydia R. Ward, South-eastern Fairfield Co., Conn.
Mrs. Eliza Howard Powers, Paterson, N. J.

NEW YORK.

Annandale, Mrs. J. C. Cruger.
Mrs. Ab Staatz.
Mrs. C. E. Sands.
Mrs. John Bard.
Ashford, Miss Jane Losee.
Auburn, Mrs. C. H. Merriman.
Mrs. Kirby, Samaritan Society
Belfast, Miss Mary Truesdell.
Broadalbin, Mrs. C. S. Jerome.
Brooklyn, Mrs. J. S. T. Stranahan.
Mrs. S. B. Caldwell.
Mrs. G. B. Archer.
Mrs. N. Burchard.
Mrs. J. Emery.
Mrs. Halliday.
Mrs. W. J. Miller.
Miss Manning.
Miss S. A. Perkins.
Miss M. Stranahan.
Mrs. Jesse Smith.
Mrs. W. Cornell.
Mrs. W. C. Goddard.
Mrs. F. E. Taylor.
Mrs. D. S. Mills.
Mrs. J. S. Turner.
Cape Vincent, Mrs. H. A. House.
Dobb's Ferry, Mrs. J. M. Ackerman.
Miss A. A. Hotchkiss.
Dunkirk, Mrs. O. S. Winans.
Ellenville, Mrs. George A. Dudley.
Mrs. William C. Derby.
Mrs. Alfred Neafie.
Garrisons, Miss Arden.
Mrs. H. W. Belcher.
Mrs. W. S. Livingston.
Mrs. F. Livingston.
Glen Cove, Miss E. Valentine.
Miss E. Coles.
Miss E. Craft.
Gloversville, Mrs. M. Lebar.
Mrs. E. W. Burlingame.
Goshen, Mrs. E. A. Redfield.
Harlem, Mrs E. B. Haddem.
Mrs. E. H. Gillette.
Mrs. J. L. Colby.
Harrison, Mrs. David Haviland.
Mrs. Joseph Park.
Mrs. James Griffin.
Mrs. W. F. Haviland.
Miss Sarah Griffin.
Miss M. Leaman.
Mrs. Grady.
Irvington, Mrs. Thomas.
Mrs. Crosby.
Mrs. R. M. Blatchford.
Mrs. Brown.
Miss Dutcher.
Miss Mulhollen.
Kingston, Miss Angela Tappan.
Leonardsville, Mrs. Isaac Brown.
Mamaroneck, Mrs. A. N. Locke.
Miss M. E. Knapp.
Miss J. Halsted.
Mrs. E. T. Stanley.
Mrs. J. P. Lyon.
Newburgh, Mrs. E. Hasbrouck.
Mrs. L. P. Dodge.
North White Creek, Mrs. Moneypenny.
Nyack, Mrs. John G. Gunn.
Oblong, Miss Mary S. Cline.
Miss Clara C. Reed.
Palisades, Mrs. Greenleaf.
Mrs. Park.
Peekskill, Mrs. Dr. Stewart.
Miss Mills.
Mrs. G. F. Hussey.

Potsdam, Miss C. S. Partridge.
Poughkeepsie, Mrs. Richard Bayley.
Miss Julia N. Crosby.
Pulaski, Mrs. A. C. Burton.
Miss M. J. Ingersoll
Rhinebeck, Mrs. Stephen Schuyler.
Mrs. William Cross.
Mrs. W. Starr Miller.
Mrs. Lewis Marquat.
Miss Eliza S. Bowne.
Schenectady, Miss Maria Potter.
Singsing, Mrs. Ryder.
Mrs. Pentz.
Mrs. Cunningham.
Mrs. Woodruff.
Mrs. Campbell.
Mrs. Smith.
Miss Snowden.
Miss Van Cortlandt.
Miss Carpenter.
Miss Ludlum.
Somers, Miss Sarah Brown.
South Brooklyn, Mrs. E. Shapter.
Mrs. J. Miller.
Mrs. S. B. Caldwell.
Syracuse, Mrs. Emma P. Thurber.
Tappan, Mrs. F. B. Lewis.
Tarrytown, Mrs. William S. Wilson.
Mrs. G. S. Davis.
Mrs. Wheeler.
Mrs. McCutcheon.
Miss Hoffiman.
Reformed Dutch Church, Mrs. Frank Vincent.
Miss F. A. Thompson.
Miss A. D. Cobb.
Troy, Mrs. J. Lansing Van Schoonhoven.
Upper Red Hook, Mrs. Mooney.
Utica, Mrs. William Hamlin.
Waterloo, Mrs. Col. Barton.
Waverley, Miss Mary Turner.
West Winfield, Mrs. Walker.
Miss H. Stout.
White Plains, Mrs. R. Berrian.
Mrs. J. J. Clapp.
Miss A. Silliman.
Miss P. Underhill.
Yonkers, Mrs. G. Hilton Scribner.
Mrs. Cyrus Cleveland.
Mrs. S. Hibbard.
Mrs. J. Lawrence.
Mrs. Davidson.
Mrs. Brett.
Mrs. Leib.
Mrs. Clapp.
Mrs. Rich.
Mrs. Walsh.
Miss Walsh.

CONNECTICUT.

Bridgeport, Miss Lydia R. Ward.
Miss Sarah C. Ward.
Central Waterford, Mrs. D. P. Rogers.
Mrs. Edmund Darrow.
Cheshire, Mrs. Mary J. Doolittle.
Danbury, Mrs. C. E. Bacon.
East Bridgeport, Mrs. L. E. Nelson.
Mrs. S. C. Kingman.
East Haddam, Miss Lucretia Brainerd.
Mrs. Jehiel Williams.
Georgetown, Mrs. Sturges Bennett.
Greenwich, Mrs. Mark Banks.
Mrs. J. H. Linsley.
Hartford, Mrs. John Olmsted.
Lakeville, Mrs. M. H. Williams.
Mrs. S. S. Robbins.
Mrs. M. H. Robbins.
Middletown, Mrs. Benjamin Douglas.
New Haven, Mrs. A. N. Skinner.
Miss J. W. Skinner.
New London, Mrs. Albertson.
Salisbury, Mrs. L. B. Werden.
Southington, Mrs. E. C. Jones.
Mrs. Joshua Fletcher.
South Manchester, Mrs. George W. Cheney.
South Norwalk, Miss H. Aymar.
Miss Emma Cape.
Miss Mary Hill.
Westbrook, Mrs. A. A. Spencer.
Miss Sarah E. Burr.
Wethersfield, Miss Fanny Stanton.

RHODE ISLAND.

Newport, Mrs. Berry.
Providence, Mrs. Hoppin.

NEW JERSEY.

Camden, Mrs. H. S. Miller.
Dover, Mrs. E. Lindsley.
Mrs. Dr. Condict.
Elizabeth, Miss Baker.
Jersey City, Mrs. Wilbur.
Mrs. Sauzade.
Keyport, Mrs. H. E. Bishop.
Mrs. H. H. Seabrook.
New Providence, Mrs. Jarvis Johnson.
Mrs. Daniel A. Valentine.
Orange, Mrs. Theron Baldwin.
Miss Hillyer.
Miss Anne Tierson.
Paterson, Mrs. Henry Clark.
Miss Mary Quin.
Mrs. A. Stoutenborough.
Mrs. E. H. Powers.
Plainfield, Mrs. Rev. T. S. Brown.
Mrs. Dr. C. H. Stillman.
Miss Mary E. Coon.
Rahway, Miss W. Edgar.
Miss G. Degraw.
Miss Shedden.
Red Bank, Mr. Dunnell.
Shrewsbury, Mrs. L. C. Williams.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Holyoke, Mrs. William G. Porter.
Mrs. J. M. Burns.
North Egremont and Great Barrington, Mrs. Sullivan.
Shelburne Falls, Mrs. Dr. A. H. Taylor.
Stockbridge, Mrs. Jonathan Field.

VERMONT.

Brattleboro, Mrs. Davenport, Assoc. Man. N. E. W. A. A.
Rutland, Mrs. Ripley, Assoc. Man. N. E. W. A. A.

MICHIGAN.

Detroit, Mrs. Stearns.

CANADA.

Toronto, Mr. George H. Folts.
Miss Mary E. Folts.

Number of Soldier's Aid Societies represented, 92. Number of Delegates, 213.

We shall be glad to have made known to us any errors or omissions in the above list.

HOSPITAL GARDENS.

BY M. C. READ.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., *November* 19, 1864.

In sending you a final report of the issues from the hospital gardens at this place, I cannot deny myself the gratification of a brief reference to a few of the military and medical officers whose hearty co-operation has rendered it so eminently successful, since without their aid and protection, nothing could have been accomplished.

To Dr. Perine, at that time Medical Director, we are indebted for bringing the subject to the attention of the General commanding the Department, who readily granted all necessary orders to protect us in the possession of the premises, and to prevent all tresspassing.

LOCATION.

The grounds were chosen after a careful reconnoissance of the whole neighborhood, in company with Dr. Salter, who was requested by Dr. Perine to make the selection. A fertile tract was found, bordered on one side by the Tennessee, on one by Citico Creek, while a continuous woods from which a fence could readily be made, skirted the other sides. It was situated near the town, at a point where no military roads were required, and when in any possible attack or defence of the post, it was scarcely possible hostile forces would ever cross it.

TOOLS.

As soon as the grounds were selected, details were furnished on the orders of Maj. Gen. Steedman, then Post Commandant, to fence and work it. He authorized us to replenish our stock of tools by impressments from the country, and the tools thus gathered were promptly repaired, and others made to order by Capt. H. M. Smith, Quartermaster in charge of Government shops.

HORSES.

When in the early stages of the enterprise, the want of horses seemed likely to cause an entire abandonment of the work, permission was obtained to select such as might be *made* serviceable, from the corrals of disabled animals, and these under careful treatment so improved that all the work has been done by them, and at the close of the season, we have seventeen serviceable animals, any one of which is worth more than they all were when taken from the corral. Through the assistance of Capt. Clark, Quartermaster for the hospitals, we obtained these animals and forage for them, and have received constant and almost daily assistance which was indispensable to success.

CONVALESCENTS.

To Drs. Cloak and Salter, successively Medical Directors of the Post, we were indebted for constant favors; and in the midst of the season when details could not otherwise be procured for the necessary care of the crops, through the kindness of these officers, arrangements were made to send convalescents from the hospitals for light duty at the gardens, who went into a temporary convalescent camp, were worked as they were able to work, fed freely upon vegetables, gradually inured to exercise and exposure, and after a few weeks, forwarded to their regiments, better fitted to endure the hardships of the camp, than if they had been sent directly from the hospitals.

To all of these officers, to the commanding officers of the colored troops, and to many others, have we been indebted for that constant assistance, without which the work could not have been prosecuted, and which has been uniformly rendered with that hearty good will, and with such expressions of interest in the work as proved that its value was fully appreciated.

Copies of reports made to the Medical Director of the Post, from the Surgeons in charge here, have already been forwarded to you, and the table enclosed will show you the aggregate issues from the garden, a good supply of winter radishes and turnips yet remaining to be gathered.

We have furnished seeds for several regimental, brigade, and headquarter gardens, and in some instances, tools for their cultivation.

PICKLES.

The pickles we are making at the rooms from the unripened tomatoes, after sending to the hospitals all that could be put up there, would sell in any of the Northern markets for more than the entire cost of the gardens, while the cash value of the vegetables issued, estimated at a price less than one-half the rates charged by citizens, who have peddled their vegetables during the

season, is, as you will see, over $66,000, which in a pecuniary point of view may be taken as the profits of the enterprise.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION.

The vegetables were distributed on the principle that the sick and wounded in hospital should be first supplied, then that all the sick and convalescent out of hospital should be reached, and whatever surplus there should be at any time after these demands were met, should be distributed to all the troops in and about Chattanooga. As opportunity offered, occasional supplies were sent during the campaign to the hospitals toward the front, but of necessity, the most of them were distributed here.

The value of these issues is not to be estimated in dollars and cents. The first wounded brought to Chattanooga were supplied on the day of their arrival with fresh vegetables from the garden, and from that time daily issues, Sundays excepted, have been made throughout the season; while during much of the time no vegetables could possibly have been obtained if this source of supply had not existed. And, as by universal testimony, a generous supply of vegetable food is indispensable to the recovery of the sick and wounded, who, during an active campaign, have been supplied only with the ordinary portable rations, the restored health of many soldiers, and the lives of many actually saved, should be taken as the net profits of the work. For the value of this return, there is no possible pecuniary estimate. Let the wife or mother, or children of the soldier who has been restored to them in health, estimate if possible the value of the supplemental aid, without which the best attention and the highest skill might have proved unavailing, and his return have become impossible.

For this year the work of the gardens is nearly finished. Most of the ground has been plowed for spring planting, and the men are repairing the tools and putting everything in order for early work.

GARDENER.

Mr. Wills, the gardner, has labored with untiring energy, has taken a commendable pride in the garden, and has achieved a success worthy of his efforts. His headquarters are a model of taste, commanding a view of the greater part of the grounds, and are erected upon a symmetrical Indian mound, the slopes and top of which have been covered with a profusion of flowers. Its beauty has commanded the admiration of every visitor, and the demand for the gardener's papers of seed for flowers, have been exceeded only by the demand for his vegetables.

A report of the yield of the garden, and copies of the reports from the surgeons in charge of the hospitals here, have been forwarded to General Thomas, and I doubt not he will authorize the continuance of the work another year, if this point is to be occupied as a military post.

The experience of this season satisfies me that such gardens are both economical and indispensable, and that the convalescents of the army, if properly organized, could be made available for the cultivation of vegetables sufficient for the entire demands during the summer, and with great benefit to the health and habits of the men.

SUPPLIES ISSUED.

Abstract of Issues from the Hospital Garden of the U. S. Sanitary Commission at Chattanooga, Tennessee, April 15 to November 14, 1864.

Lettuce,	1,289 bush.	Turnips and winter radishes,	7¼ bush.
Beets,	1,563 "	Cucumbers,	2,693 doz.
Onions,	1,407 "	Summer squash,	5,526 no.
Mustard,	1,496 "	Cabbage,	10,761 heads
Potatoes, (Irish)	901¼ "	Table corn,	107,562 ears.
Radishes,	715 "	Okra,	1,717 doz.
Peas,	442 "	Peppers,	958 "
Snap beans,	431 "	Melons,	1,668 no.
Lima "	148 "	Winter squash,	312 "
Tomatoes,	1,269 "	Pumpkins,	1,152 "
Sweet potatoes,	384 "	Flower seeds,	5,779 papers
Spinach,	133 "		

Estimated value at Chattanooga, $66,375 70.

The crop of winter radishes and turnips remain to be issued.

ORDER OF MAJOR GENERAL THOMAS.

CHATTANOOGA, *Nov.* 24, 1864.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY,
Sec. Western Department U. S. Sanitary Commission.

MY DEAR SIR:—Enclosed you will find copy of General Thomas' order for the cultivation of the gardens at this post, for the coming season.

Mr. Wills will return North soon, and will make out lists and amounts of seed required. It is important that the seeds be purchased and forwarded, so that the work can commence early, and go on without interruption. I will write to-night to Mr. Newton of the Agricultural Department, and secure a supply from him, but of course not a large amount. Shall make immediate efforts to enrich the gardens on the mountain. Yours truly,

M. C. READ.

HEAD QRS. DEPT. OF THE CUMBERLAND,
CHATTANOOGA, TENN., *Nov.* 23, 1864.

Special Field Orders, No. 321.

Extract.

* * * * * *

IV. The protection heretofore furnished the Sanitary Commission, in the cultivation of abandoned lands, for the benefit of hospitals, &c., is hereby renewed, and its authority extended over the brigade garden on Lookout Mountain.

Every preparation will be made for keeping the gardens under its control, in full cultivation for the ensuing year.

* * * * * *

By command of Major Gen. Thomas,
SOUTHARD HOFFMAN,
Assistant Adjutant General.

MR. READ,
Agent Sanitary Commission.

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS AT RED RIVER.

BY JOHN STEVENS, JR.

NEW ORLEANS,
Oct. 25, 1864.

DR. GEO. A. BLAKE,

DEAR SIR:—At the invitation of Col. Dwight, Commissioner of Exchange, I left in the steamer St. Marys for Red River, landing on the 21st inst. My boxes had an assortment of articles, such as stimulants, milk, beef stock and farina, with reading matter and many other things which would be acceptable to men who had tarried long in rebeldom, where they entered scantily furnished on account of sudden capture, and where they lived six months or more, without any additions in the way of comforts.

We had some one hundred and fifty well clothed and well filled rebels, who evidently had enjoyed their stay in the city, even if it had been forced.

Reaching the mouth of the Red River late Saturday evening, it was not till next morning that we were able to communicate with the rebel commissioners, and about noon, two of *our late* steamers came down the river with the white flag at the "fore," and the red and white ensign aft.

A band, playing Bonnie Blue Flag, worked a response from our excursion boat, which joined us, with General McGinnis, from Morganzia, in the way of all good national airs, which were sweet music indeed to the crowd of poor, dirty, ragged creatures that crowded their decks, and whose ears had too long been accustomed to their hateful tunes. Real good Anglo-Saxon hurrahs would fill the air, contrasting pleasantly with the rebel yell which one has to hear to appreciate.

The preliminary forms having been attended to, the exchanges were made, and those who had suffered a long imprisonment were free once more.

THE OLD FLAG.

The color bearer of the 48th Ohio, many of whose regiment were captured at Mansfield, had, when surrounded, stripped his flag from the staff, and secreted it around his body. When in the stockade in Texas, it being rumored among the rebels that such was the case, a diligent search was made for it, but our men had shrewdly buried it. After resting some time in rebel soil it was dug up, and only slightly soiled, and stitched into the jacket of one of the captains, under the lining, and thus it passed *its* captivity. On the way down the river the men secretly made a flag-staff, so that the very instant they stepped on board our boat, after the exchange, they drew out from its long hiding place their good old flag, spreading it to the breeze. The effect can be imagined better than described; shouts, yells of defiance, and tears of joy followed, with no doubt many thanksgivings to God for His mercy in thus sparing them, to witness this triumph.

Most of the men, physically, were in good condition. Some dozen or more were, however, suffering from chronic diarrhœa, and my attention was soon directed to them. Some hot broth and stimulants relieved them, but death had marked several for his own. One died in a few hours. There was no regular medical attendance at their place of confinement, and although not as cruel as in some other places, yet there was more neglect than humanity would allow. A great many had died of scurvy, and no means had been taken to prevent it. As for clothing, there was not a whole decent garment in the crowd. Most were not even protected sufficiently for the season. As soon as we were settled, I had pails of milk punch ready for those who seemed exhausted, which with soft crackers, was relished much. Getting a sergeant there, we distributed onions to the different messes. On our way home opened a box of newspapers, magazines, and a bundle of Testaments, with other little books, which were greedily seized; also writing paper, envelopes and

pens; so that all could send home the good tidings of their deliverance.

About 4 P.M. on Monday we landed our motley crowd at New Orleans, where they were cared for by the officers of the department.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION AND OUR RETURNED PRISONERS.

BY D. J. BRIGHAM.

With seven other agents of the Sanitary Commission, I started on Thursday, October 27, for Fortress Monroe. Arrived there Friday afternoon, not knowing where we were going or for what purpose. We were there told that our destination was Savannah River; that we were all to go on different ships, each taking a quantity of Sanitary Commission stores on board, to be issued to our prisoners, on their return to Annapolis.

On Tuesday, November 1, we received orders to go on board the different ships with our stores, so as to be in readiness to start at any time. We then divided the stores, giving to each one a share proportionate to the size of the vessel on which he was ordered, and in a short time I found myself on board the *Gen. Sedgwick*.

Arrived at Port Royal on Saturday, November 12. On the 15th we went to Beaufort, came back to Port Royal the 17th.

On Sunday, November 20, we started with the whole fleet for the point of exchange in the Savannah River. Opposite Fort Pulaski the river is filled with sunken vessels; no ships have passed above this obstruction till within a few weeks. By means of a skillful pilot we passed it in safety, and arrived at Venus Point, where the exchange is taking place.

I went on board the *New York* (which was then receiving our prisoners) and there witnessed a scene of misery beyond anything I ever conceived. Many of our men were unable to walk. Most of them were barefooted, many of them without underclothing, and their thin, wasted forms were covered with dirt and vermin. When they found themselves on our vessels, their eyes, before without expression, were lighted up with new brilliancy; it seemed like the dawning of a new existence to them. When the hard-tack and coffee were given them, they were wild with joy, and each vied with the other in the quantity he could dispose of. Although it was with pain we witnessed their misery, yet a feeling of happiness, that I have seldom before experienced, came over me on seeing their sufferings in a measure alleviated.

We expected to get our load the next day, but did not until Tuesday, November 22. I had my stores placed where I would have access to them easily, and about noon we received five hundred men, and started at 2 P.M. for the North, having on board a surgeon, to whom I reported as directed. We had a strong wind in our favor and went along very fast; were soon out to sea. I gave out 40 blankets, and by the Surgeon's direction a large quantity of Government blankets; also gave out numbers of tin-cups.

Wednesday, November 23, awoke very sick, the vessel rolling and pitching terribly. I went forward, and the mate and I, with eight men detailed to help us, and the cook, raised some stores from the hold. The men were then given a breakfast of army bread and coffee. I then brought up a quantity of canned milk and tomatoes, and gave them to the cook. For dinner they were given meat, pickles and "San. Com. soup," as they called it, made of tomatoes, onions, meat and crackers. Nothing tasted so good to them as pickles and vinegar. During the day I gave out the shirts, socks, slippers and other goods. Every man who received these articles was in a very destitute condition, in fact almost naked. I also gave out considerable medicine, liquor, &c., according to the surgeon's directions. Went to bed as soon as dark; was completely exhausted, having eaten nothing during the day; was soon rocked to sleep.

Thursday awoke quite refreshed; found the storm had abated. The men were mostly well and feeling in good spirits. I made the acquaintance of a great many prisoners; and many a tale of hair-breadth escapes, recaptures, rebel cruelty and intense suffering was told. Many were intelligent men, who appreciated the service of the Commission highly. They said that one-third of the stores sent them, reached those for whom they were designed, the balance is given to those in rebel hospitals. The sea was perfectly calm during the rest of the voyage over, and the men seemed to enjoy it very much.

Friday, had a beautiful ride up the bay. The day passed off nearly the same as before. Arrived at Annapolis at 2 o'clock A.M. Went to the wharf at 7, and immediately commenced landing the men. All were given new clothes; and, except eight,

who were carried to the hospital on stretchers, were marched to Camp Parole.

List of Sanitary Stores forwarded to Fortress Monroe to accompany Expedition to Savannah for released prisoners.

1,500 pairs, wool socks.
1,020 wool shirts.
1,020 wool drawers.
2,000 pocket handkerchiefs.
1,000 towels.
200 blankets.
40 pillows.
36 military caps.
300 pairs, slippers.
200 lbs. crushed sugar.
200 lbs. green tea
25 boxes, chocolate.
3,827 lbs. crackers.
1,008 lbs. condensed milk.
120 bot. old Maderia wine.
4,800 lbs. tomatoes.
20 barrels, onions.
20 kegs, pickles.
150 tin cups.
10 spit cups.
21 lanterns.
80 lbs. candles.
24 wooden buckets.
5 wooden firkins.
50 doz. essence ginger.
369 lbs. tobacco.
1,000 envelopes.
3 reams of letter paper.

Special Relief Department.

SPECIAL RELIEF—ONE WEEK.

BY J. B. ABBOTT.

I respectfully submit the following report of the "Special Relief" work accomplished under my charge for the week ending Nov. 19th, 1864:

Number of pay accounts of discharged soldiers taken for adjustment,	22
Number of bounty claims taken,	4
Number of cases for back pay taken,	60
Number of applications for the pay of soldiers who have become prisoners of war, taken,	11
Number Naval claims taken,	6
Number of pension claims filed,	26
Whole number of cases taken,	129
Whole number of cases adjusted,	78
Whole amount collected,	$7,586 61
Number of drafts forwarded,	19
Amount of the drafts sent,	$1,837 03

My attention having been called to the fact, that there are a large number of soldiers in the Hospital at Buffalo, New York, who have from four to ten months back pay due them, and no way of obtaining it, as no payments are made at that hospital, I at once commenced to investigate the matter, for the purpose of securing the patients their pay, if possible, which they need very much, as many of them have families dependent upon the small monthly pittance they receive from the Government. I first applied to the Paymaster in charge of the Department at New York, who referred me to the Paymaster's statement at Albany. He informed me that the Medical Officer at Buffalo, had not furnished the Pay Department with rolls on which to make a payment. Having received this information, I sent Mr. Brown to Buffalo to investigate the matter there. He was treated very courteously by the Medical Officer in charge of the hospital, who assured him that measures should be taken to insure a speedy payment of the patients in his charge, and gave him every facility for taking the cases of those who claimed back pay, for which we obtain certificates that will enable the men to be mustered for all the pay due them. The result of our investigation has been very satisfactory, and the prospects are now, that the soldiers there will no longer have reason to complain as heretofore.

CASH ACCOUNT.

Cash on hand Nov. 12th,	$49 80
Cash returned from loan,	12 00
Expenditures,	75
Cash on hand this date,	61 80

The amount of work accomplished at the Homes and Lodges is less than usual, this week.

There have been furnished at Lodge No. 4, lodgings to soldiers,	289
Meals to soldiers,	1,912
Meals to others,	643
Whole number of meals given,	2,555
Number of soldiers and soldier's friends admitted at the Alexandria Lodge since the last report,	128
Number of meals given to soldiers,	247
" " " " to soldiers' friends,	84
Number lodgings furnished to soldiers,	117
Number lodgings furnished to soldiers' friends,	28
The number of soldiers and soldiers' friends admitted at the Home in Baltimore, since last report.	82
Number of meals given to soldiers and their friends,	386
Number of lodgings,	112

HARRISBURG.

Mr. C. C. Brown, whom I temporarily assigned to the charge of the Soldier's Rest at Harrisburg, Mr. Ferguson, the Superintendent, having gone home on sick leave for a few days, reports:

Number of meals given for the week,	55
" " lodgings furnished,	51

A. H. Trego, Courier, reports eighty-three sick and wounded soldiers assisted and waited upon in transitu between this city and New York, during the week. The number thus aided is unusually small.

In conclusion, I take the liberty to suggest the importance of a Lodge at Newbern, North Carolina, where I am advised by those who have visited that military post, that one is very much needed. I trust that measures will be taken to establish a lodge there, through the Agent of the Commission stationed at that post.

BY JULIUS NICHOLS.

The following is the report of the sick, in Home Hospital, for the week ending 20th instant:

Permanent cases treated,	15
Transient cases treated,	42
Wounded men dressed,	92
Total,	149

BY H. WOODS.

The following is the report of the "Home" for the Wives and Mothers of Soldiers, for the week ending Nov. 20th, 1864:

Whole number admitted,	37
" " meals,	370
" " lodged,	144

BY P. J. M'HENRY.

The following is the report of "The Home" for the week ending Nov. 20th, 1864:

Whole number admitted,	748
" " lodgings,	1,223
" " meals,	2,854

Representing the following States:—Maine, 50; New Hampshire, 37; Vermont, 7; Massachusetts, 83; Rhode Island, 6; Connecticut, 19; New York, 197; New Jersey, 22; Pennsylvania, 158; Delaware, 5; Maryland, 9; Virginia, 1; Ohio, 32; Indiana, 8; Illinois, 15; Michigan, 91; Wisconsin, 6; Iowa, 2.

BY J. ADDISON WHITAKER.

ANNAPOLIS, MD., *Nov.* 21, 1864.

I herewith respectfully present my report for this District, for the week ending this date.

Office duties have been more pressing than usual, on account of large quantities of stores arriving every day, in view of the expected arrival of ten thousand paroled prisoners from rebel prisons.

I had previously been informed by the surgeons in charge of the hospitals what each of them would need, to add to the comfort of the unfortunate men. Consequently as the stores arrived from day to day, I made immediate distribution of them, according to requests of the surgeons. In this way, I avoided a large accumulation in the storehouse, and by the end of the week, with the exception of kandkerchiefs and towels, so far as the Sanitary Commission's work extends towards supplying the District, we were ready to welcome home our long absent ones, who have so patiently, and patriotically endured the privations of rebel prisons.

During the reception and distribution of the stores, the office has at times been filled with visitors, some to have their cards renewed at the "Home," some to have their cards approved for admittance, some waiting conveyance to "Soldier's Cemetery," where, perhaps, just a few hours previous a husband, son, or father was interred.

Some wanted information about collecting deceased relative's back pay, bounty and pension. Dozens of poor soldiers who have been prisoners, and whose families are really suffering for necessaries of life, were waiting to hear whether I could not procure certificates for commutation of their rations while they were prisoners.

Letters of inquiry also came, written by friends at home, who wished to anticipate the arrival of the "Flag of Truce Boats."

Thus the week passed leaving the impression on our hearts, at least, that we had done another six days good work.

I have received, issued, and have on hand, stores as statement per paper "A."

Camp Parole continues to open a wide field of usefulness to our agents. It affords me great satisfaction to review our work there from week to week. Our agents are not inactive, I assure you. Being well supplied with everything needed in our work, they are ready to reach forth a helping hand to our poor suffering soldiers, the moment they arrive. And what a satisfaction it must be to their friends at home to know that the Commission has so magnanimously provided for almost every little want they may have on their arrival.

Divisions numbers 1 and 2, U. S. General Hospitals, are visited regularly by our Agent, Mr. Miller. He is kindly welcomed by officers, and gladly received by the men.

I regard the presence of an agent in these

hospitals as most essential to our work, and the welfare of the men.

"The Home," as you will see by report this week, is not so much crowded as heretofore, nevertheless, affording to many a sorrowing heart a place of retirement and rest. I regard the report as quite interesting this week.

In conclusion, allow me to express my thanks to you and your Assistant for the promptness with which you have enabled me to meet the requisitions of the surgeons of the different hospitals, your reward at present may be that *we are ready for the boats!*

Statement of U. S. Sanitary Commission Stores issued by Addison Whitaker, Superintendent Annapolis District, for the month of Nov'r, 1864.

ARTICLES.	U. S General Hospital, Div'n 1.	St. John's College Hospital, Div'n 2	Camp Parole.	College Green Barracks.	Annapolis Junction Hospital.	Special Relief.	Whole Amount.
Wool shirts,	658	300	124		48	20	1,150
Wool drawers,	216	120	124		30	15	505 pairs
Wool mittens,	98	50	100		48	1	297 "
Wool socks,	396	180	96			16	688 "
Cotton shirts,	50		48				98
Cotton drawers,			48				48 "
Slippers,	20		23			2	45 "
Shoes,			6			3	9 "
Suspenders,	288	240	123		24	4	679 "
Handkerchiefs,	625	170	750	700		26	2,271
Towels,			960	678			1,648
Rye whiskey,	6	6			6	12	30 bottles
Brandy,	25	2			6		33 "
Black'y Brandy,	12	12	30			6	60 "
Sherry wine,	12	1				2	15 "
Bay rum,	16	12	6			2	36 "
Jamaica ginger,	96	60		192			348 "
Dried apples,	5	2		3	1		11 bbls.
Ass'd dried fruit	1	1	1				3 "
Boston crackers,	4	3	4	3	1		15 "
Chocolate,	35				35		70 lbs.
Farina,	8				8		16 "
Beef stock,	24	66	24				114 "
Can'd tomatoes			96				96 cans.
Condensed milk,	72	96	48		48	48	312 "
Fine combs,	432	456	518	1152		15	2,558
Coarse combs,	432	432	504	1152		15	2,520
Writing paper,	8	4	7	8			27 rms.
Envelopes,	3500	2000	3450	4000			12,950
Steel pens,	144	144	288	144			864
Lead pencils,	144	144	144	576		24	1,176
Penholders,	144	144	169	144			601
Writing ink,	4		15				19 qts.
Quilts,		110	40				151
Sheets,		50	24				74
Blankets,			5			2	7
Cushions,	75				45		120
Crutches,	25	25				1	51
Water beds,	1	1	1				3
Air cushions,	2	4	2		1		10
Tobacco,	232		132				364 papers
Bandages,	25		20		25		65
Thread,	6	6	18	10			40 lbs.
Spit cups,	12						12
Needles,	12	5	39	10			66 papers
Scissors,	6						6 pair
Pillows,		25	22			3	50
Corn meal,		1	½		½		2 bbls.
Soap,	12	12	22				46 lbs.
Corn starch,			50		25		75 "
Bed ticks,			54				54

FROM WASHINGTON, D. C.

BY J. B. HOLT, HOSPITAL VISITOR.

I have the honor to submit the following report for the week ending Nov. 19, 1864: Have visited during the week the hospitals at Alexandria, 20 in number, not including two at barracks. Have also visited Fort Lyons, Fort Williams, Forts Ward, Albany, Woodbury, Strong, Fairfax Seminary, and Invalid Corps hospital at Freedman's Village, Arlington Heights. Have written very many letters (evenings) for soldiers in regard to State bounties, &c. Have, by writing to friends and citizens, in towns where the men were arrested, obtained testimony showing that in two cases the arrests were illegal, the men never having enlisted. The men have been sent home to their families, after being confined in prison and sick in hospitals for many months. I have given much information in regard to back pay, bounties, transfers, &c. The supply in storehouse the past week being more abundant than for some weeks, I have been able in consequence to do much more for the comfort of the suffering, making my work much more pleasant. In consequence of a ride to-day of some fifteen miles, I will beg you to accept this meagre report.

PROFESSOR SILLIMAN.

The New Haven *Daily Journal* is before us. It gives a column to the name and virtues of Professor Benjamin Silliman, Senr. The following extract is noticed here, as bearing upon his interest in the U. S. San. Com.:

His last appearance in public was at the meeting on Sunday evening, which was held for the Sanitary Commission, by his interest in which his patriotism, his humanity and his public spirit were all illustrated in this last public act which proved the occasion of his death.

We remember to have seen Professor Silliman at the meeting referred to, and we well remember his remark at its conclusion. Taking us warmly by the hand, he said:

"I am now satisfied that the interests of our soldiers will be well served. New Haven is safe for the Sanitary Commission."

Such was the testimony of this great and good man. A Christian, ripe in years, in experience, in hope.

GENERAL SHERIDAN AND THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

The Sanitary Commission has received the following letter from Gen. Sheridan:

HEADQUARTERS MIDDLE MILITARY DIVISION,
IN THE FIELD, *November* 13, 1864.

J FOSTER JENKINS,
General Secretary U. S. Sanitary Commission.

DEAR SIR:—Yours of October 31, advising me of my having been elected an associate member of the United States Sanitary Commission, is received.

I have the honor to thank you for the compliment paid me, and in behalf of the sick and wounded of this army, to acknowledge the many benefits derived from your charitable association.

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JAMES BROWN,	WILSON G. HUNT,
WILLIAM H. ASPINWALL,	ROBERT L. STUART,
JAMES GALLATIN,	ALFRED PELL.

Apply in person or by letter, to
HENRY GREENFIELD, *Secretary*,
35 CHAMBERS STREET, New York.

OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

1*st. To secure the soldiers and sailors and their families, any claims for pensions, pay, or bounty, etc., without cost to the claimant.*

2*d. To protect soldiers or sailors and their families from imposture and fraud.*

3*d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.*

4*th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.*

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the United States Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

H. W. Bellows, D.D., New York.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Washington, D. C.
F. L. Olmsted, California.
George T. Strong, Esq, New York.
Elisha Harris, M.D., New York.
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For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

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In all cases the name, rank, company, and regiment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

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U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 59 Fourth Street, Pittsburgh, Penna.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.

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The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

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"Lodge No. 4," for discharged soldiers, No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 5," near terminus of Washington and Alexandria R. R., Maryland Avenue, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 6," near Steamboat Landing, Sixth Street, Washington, D. C.

"Alexandria Lodge," near terminus of Orange and Alexandria R. R., Alexandria, Va.

"The Home," Baltimore, Md.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," Annapolis, Md.

"Soldiers' Lodge," Harrisburg, Pa.

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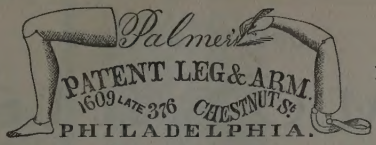

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SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Dec. 12, 1863.

SIR:—The Board of Medical Officers assembled in the City of Philadelphia, for the purpose of examining the different models submitted & them for an Artificial Arm, having reported * * * * * * * * *

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD, WHEN A SOLDIER MAY DESIRE TO PURCHASE "THE MORE ELEGANT AND EXPENSIVE ARM OF PALMER," FIFTY DOLLARS WILL BE ALLOWED TOWARDS PAYMENT FOR THT SAME.

By order of the Acting Surgeon-General. C. H. CRANE, Surgeon U.S.A.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Sept. 20, 1864.

SIR:—In answer to your letter of the 1st inst., I am directed to inform you, that the Report and recommendation of the Medical Board recently assembled in New York, to examine samples and models of Artificial Limbs, is not designed to supersede the recommendation of the former Board, SO FAR AS REGARDS THE LIMBS MANUFACTURED BY YOU.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant, by order of the Surgeon-General,
W. C. SPENCER, Assistant Surgeon U.S.A.

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